

INSUBORDINATION
FEST ZINE '09



THIS ZINE IS DEDICATED TO

★ ERIKA ★



WE MISS YOU CRUMBLY!



Chris Imperfekt

welcomes you back to

Insubordination Fest

2009

interview by Danny White



So here we are, Insubordination Fest year 4. This is an amazing party for all of us, but the culmination of a lot of work for you. How are you feeling going into it this year?

Pretty good. I would be lying if I said that I was completely without stress; this event is a big undertaking, but thank goodness we have so many great people working to insure its success. I think it will be a blast.

What was the most frustrating part of planning this year's event?

We had a bit of a headlong rush to book bands. We were waiting on responses and that was nerve-racking. In the end, we pulled it together. I am really happy with this year's line up.

What band are you most excited about booking this year?

This is a tough question. I am stoked about all of the bands. How's that for a diplomatic answer? Actually, I am super-stoked to see Spodie, the Abducted, Max Levine Ensemble, Be My Doppelganger and the Dead Milkmen.

Sadly, not every band accepts your invitation to play. What dream bands keeps slipping from your grasp that you'd love to have play?

ALL ... goddamnitallfrigginfragginfrekfoookall ... We almost had them this year. I guess next year, I going to have to sell a kidney. How much do body parts go for anyway?

With all this excitement, you need plenty of good food to keep your energy up during the fest. What restaurants are a must visit for you during fest weekend?

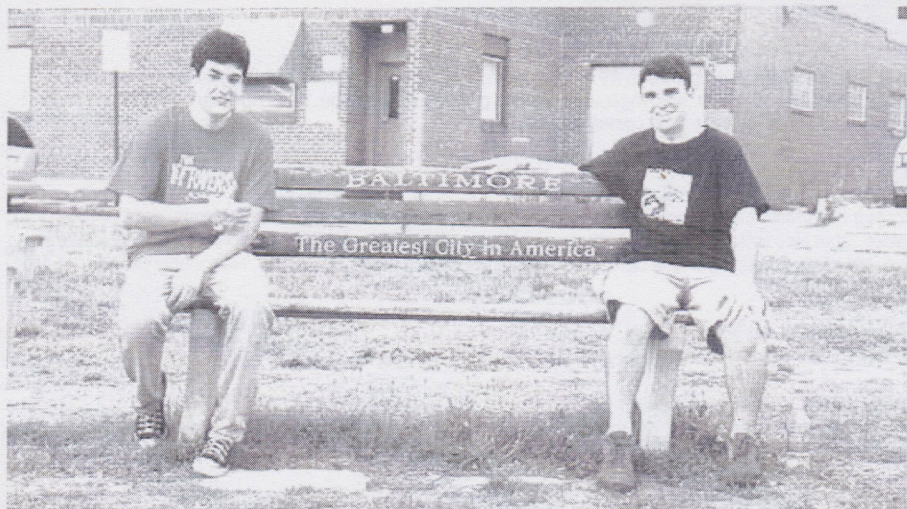
For beer I suggest visiting Max's on Broadway. Ton's of beer, but beware of the bro-dudes. You should also try to get some crabs at Mr. Bill's Terrace Inn.

And finally, after the post-fest dust settles, how long will it take before wanting to hear the words "Insubordination Fest" again.

The day after. I love doing the Fest. It brings so many people together; people that I want to see. I really consider every single attendee a friend. Even if they hate my guts. As long as they are having a good time, I'm having a good time.

We all appreciate your hard work on putting this weekend together.

2 Thanks man!



Welcome to Baltimore... the Greatest City in America!

Trying to figure out what to do, where to eat, and how to get around in Baltimore? This only scratches the surface, but hopefully it will help you figure out the basics! If you want to know about something that isn't covered here, just track down a Baltimore local at the fest and ask!

Yes, all this information was in last year's zine as well. Nobody really got a chance to use it, and there's some good information here, so we're bringing it back! Enjoy.

Baltimore's Neighborhoods

Inner Harbor/Downtown

The Inner Harbor is Baltimore's touristy center. If you're looking to kill some time, head down here to look at cool old ships, ride paddle boats, buy crab souvenirs, ride the ducks... that kind of thing! There's a visitor's center where you can find info on pretty much anything. There are some touristy chain restaurants on the water, but unfortunately there's not much else happening in the rest of the downtown area outside of business hours.

Mount Vernon

Head to Mt. Vernon if you're looking for something to eat. You can find pretty much anything from Thai to sushi to Indian to Afghani to burgers on Charles Street between Downtown and Penn Station (a walkable distance—only about a mile and a half).

Hampden

Hampden's a strange mix of white working class folks and hipsters. The main street through the neighborhood has a handful of decent restaurants and lots of little shops that sell knick knacks, antiques, and pink flamingo paraphernalia. Take I-83 to Falls Road to 36th Street, aka 'The Avenue'.

Fells Point

Fells Point is an old neighborhood on the water... cool old houses and cobblestone streets, lots of bars, seafood restaurants, some upscale shops, but also a few records stores. Broadway and Thames are the main streets through the neighborhood. Upper Fells Point has a big Latino population, so there are tons of authentic little taquerias. (walk up Broadway a few blocks, away from the harbor)

Towson

Towson is just north of the city. A big suburb with a big college. Around the Reher Theatre on York Road there are lots of restaurants, sandwich shops, and miscellaneous stores. To get to Towson, either take the city streets—take Charles St. north out of downtown, go right on 25th, then left on Greenmount to continue north (it will turn into York and take you all the way there)—or, take I-83N to I-695E; get off at exit 26A and follow the directions to head south on York Road.

Where to Eat

There are too many good places to try and list them all, so these are just a few suggestions for specific stuff—breakfast, late-night, and vegetarian. If none of these do it for you, head up Charles Street in Mount Vernon and you're bound to find something you like.

Breakfast

Golden West, 1105 W 36th St.

Popular Hampden brunch spot, with a southwestern-influenced menu. Huevos rancheros, green chilies galore... but also tasty pancakes and that sort of thing. (If the wait's too long, go across the street to Café Hon. It's a little touristy and their dinner food is overpriced, but they have a solid, reasonably priced breakfast.)

Jimmy's, 801 S. Broadway

Probably Baltimore's favorite American-style diner. In Fells Point.

Little Havana, 1325 Key Highway

Cuban bar & restaurant on the waterfront that does brunch on **Sundays**. \$13.95 for an entrée and unlimited Bloody Marys/mimosas.

(The Paper Moon, Blue Moon & One World also do brunch. See below.)

Vegetarian

Vegetarians won't have trouble finding at least a few choices on the menu at most restaurants in Baltimore. There are a few restaurants that cater specifically to vegetarians and vegans though.

One World Café, 100 W University Parkway

Delicious vegetarian restaurant. Vegan options, and a few fish options. They do sandwiches, entrees, and breakfast.

Yabba Pot, 2431 St Paul St.

Strictly vegan, Caribbean-style food.

Liquid Earth, 1626 Aliceanna St.

Vegan and vegetarian sandwiches and a juice bar. In Fells Point.

Late Night

After 11pm, it gets harder to find a place to eat in Baltimore. After 2am, there are really only a few options left. If you want to eat late after one of the shows, here are a few places to try.

Paper Moon Diner, 227 W. 29th St.

Breakfast food served 24-7, sandwiches... diner fare, but scaled up a notch. Plenty of vegetarian options. Just 3 blocks north of the Ottobar.

Nam Kang, 2126 Maryland Ave.

Korean food, served til 4am! A few block south of the Ottobar.

Sip & Bite, 2200 Boston St.

24-hour old school diner. Just east of Fells Point.

Blue Moon Café, 1621 Aliceanna St.

Brunch served during normal brunch hours, but also in the middle of the night! In Fells Point.

Booze

There are two places to buy alcohol in Baltimore: at the liquor store, or as carry out from a local bar (called "package goods"). Grocery and convenience stores do not sell alcohol, though there are a few exceptions. Most liquor stores close by 9 or 10pm. Again, there are exceptions, but if you want beer, better to buy it earlier. Liquor stores are also closed on Sundays. If a bar sells package goods (not all of them do), you can buy from them any time they're open... til 2am, including Sundays, but it will cost you more than buying from a store.

One of the easiest places to buy beer downtown (near the hotels, and near Sonar) is one of the exceptions to the convenience store rule. The Rite Aid on Baltimore & Calvert sells beer and wine.

Getting Around

Baltimore's a big city, so use some common sense in getting around... whether you're walking, taking the bus, or driving through an unfamiliar neighborhood. People are unlikely to mess with you, but they're even less likely to if you use some street smarts—hide your valuables, don't wave your wallet around, don't act like a drunken fool, walk home with a friend... simple stuff like that!

Cabs

If you're downtown, it shouldn't be too hard to just flag down a cab. You can also call for a pick-up. It'll be a 20-30 minute ride from the Friday show in Towson to central Baltimore, so share a cab cause it's not going to be cheap. Also, make sure they run the meter. Most cabbies won't screw you over... just make sure they don't try! Yellow Cab: 410-685-1212, Rainbow Cab: 410-467-0062

Light Rail/Bus Lines

The Maryland Transit Authority website (<http://www.mtaMaryland.com/>) has all the details, but here are some of the main lines that might be helpful. Fare: \$1.60 one-way; \$3.50 day pass

Light Rail: Connects Downtown to the BWI Airport. Downtown stops are on Howard Street (one on Howard & Baltimore, one on Howard & Pratt near Camden Yards).

Route 27: Connects Downtown to the Ottobar to Hampden. Runs up Howard Street through Downtown and past the Ottobar. If you take it to the Ottobar pre-show, be sure to catch the last bus back downtown by about 1:45am.

Route 8: Connects Downtown to Towson (ie: to the Friday show at the Recher). Runs East-West down Baltimore Street through Downtown, then up Greenmount (which turns into York when you hit Towson). Runs every hour late at night (catch it back into town at 1:30 or 2:30AM).

Parking

You can find street parking in most Baltimore neighborhoods, but in many cases you'll have to pay a meter. Lots of them are new-fangled and take credit cards... but some still require change. If it's not a metered area, just check the signs for any restrictions on when or how long you can park.

The Ottobar has its own free lot in the back, and free street parking nearby.

At the Recher, you can find street parking and pay the meter, but it's probably easiest to just park in one of the lots behind the venue (also metered up until a certain time), or park in the big municipal lot two blocks south of the venue for just a few bucks.

Around Sonar, there is some street parking, but you may have to pay the meters during the day. There is a huge parking lot just across the street from the venue that may be your best bet—it's definitely free at night, and maybe all day on weekends. Just use some common sense and don't leave anything tempting visible in your car. If all else fails, it's downtown and there are tons of pay garages.

Near the Shows

You'll have no problem figuring things out near the Recher. It's a college area, so you'll see tons of restaurants up and down the main street, and a 7-11 just a few blocks down York Road.

Sonar is downtown, and things get pretty dead on nights and weekends. Sick Sick Burgers will be serving food at the venue. If you want something else, or need a convenience store, your best bet is to head south towards the harbor. There's a 7-11 at 231 E. Baltimore St. and lots of restaurants Inner Harbor (for quick food, there's a Chipotle in the Power Plant building). Pizza Bolli's will deliver to downtown too: 410-752-1500.

Banks

If you need cash, here are the closest ATMs to the shows. No Wells Fargo, Chase, US Bank, WaMu in Baltimore... you're stuck with the ATM fees.

Bank of America: Downtown: 225 N. Calvert; Towson: 32 W. Pennsylvania Ave.

BB&T: Downtown: 2 N. Charles St.; Towson: 600 Washington Ave.

Citibank: Downtown: 231 E. Baltimore St.; Towson: 321 York Road

PNC: Downtown: 17 W. Baltimore St.; Towson: 409 Washington Ave.

Sun Trust: Downtown: 120 E. Baltimore St.; Towson: 22 W. Pennsylvania Ave.

Wachovia: Downtown: 7 St. Paul St.; Towson: 25 W. Chesapeake Ave.

Touristy Stuff

The Water Taxi

Runs between the Inner Harbor, Fells Point, Canton, and Fort McHenry. You can take a boat ride and transport yourself all at once! Costs \$9 for a day pass. If you're by the water in the Inner Harbor or Fells Point, you'll see the boats and can just buy tickets from the driver.

Fort McHenry

Francis Scott Key wrote the Star Spangled Banner while watching the Battle of Baltimore play out over this very fort. If you go to the site, you'll get to watch a cheesy video that celebrates this fact! You can tour the fort and learn about history and stuff! Costs \$7. To get there, take the water taxi, or by car from the Inner Harbor, take St. Paul St. south (turns into Light Street), and make a left onto Key Highway. Follow the Fort McHenry signs to Lawrence Street. Turn right here, and then left on Fort Avenue to the park.

The National Aquarium

A very popular but fairly expensive feature of Baltimore's Inner Harbor. Contains tanks of fish from all over the world! Tickets are \$21.95.

Baltimore Heritage Tour

If you can get your butt in gear early enough and would like to learn more about Baltimore and its role in American History, this is worth checking out. It's a free 90-minute walking tour that happens once a day, departing at 10am from the visitor's center at the Inner Harbor (between the water and Light Street). Takes you around the harbor, downtown, and Little Italy.

The American Visionary Art Museum

Not your standard art museum. Features work of self-taught artists. Innovative, creative, wacky, etc. \$12 adults/\$8 students. Just across the Inner Harbor from downtown at 800 Key Highway. Water taxi can also get you there.

Crabs

It's true. We have crabs here in Baltimore. You can find some fancier seafood joints around the Inner Harbor, and some less fancy seafood joints throughout Fells Point. If you want the full crab picking experience, a good place to try is **LP Steamers**. It's not cheap, and the whole deal will take a few hours... but if you haven't tried it before, it might be worth it!

1100 E. Fort Ave, Baltimore, 410-576-9294 (Take Light St. to Key Highway to Fort Ave.)



- 1 Sonar
- 2 Otobar
- 3 Charm City Art Space
- 4 Tremont Plaza
- 5 Holiday Inn
- 6 Sound Garden
- Own Guru Records
- Jimmy's
- Liquid Earth
- Blue Moon Cafe
- 7 True Vine
- Atomic Books
- Golden West
- 8 Normaf's Books & Records
- 9 Little Havana
- 10 One World Cafe
- 11 Yabba Pot
- 12 Paper Moon
- 13 Nam Kang
- 14 Sip & Bite
- 15 Fort McHenry
- 16 National Aquarium
- 17 Visitor's Center / Heritage Tour
- 18 Visionary Art Museum
- 19 LP Steamers
- 20 Recher
- Celebrated Summer
- 21 Penn Station

Records 'n' Books

Reptilian Records, 2545 N. Howard St.

This is thee punk record store in Baltimore. Right next door to the Ottobar, so hit it up Thursday before the pre-show!

Celebrated Summer Records, 503 York Road, Towson

Thee punk record store in Towson! Small place, but really great selection. Right across the street from the Recher, and definitely worth a stop. Shares a space with a comic book store... go all the way back for the records.

Sound Garden, 1616 Thames St.

Not the greatest punk selection, and not a ton of vinyl... but if you're looking for variety, this is the place. Every genre under the sun. CDs, DVDs, some used stuff... you get the idea. Worth a stop if you're in Fells Point.

True Vine, 1123 W. 36th St.

An eclectic selection of new stuff on CD or vinyl, ranging from indie to jazz to hip-hop to experimental, and lots of old used vinyl.

Own Guru Records, 728 S. Broadway

Used vinyl from all genres. Ranges from collectible stuff to cheap \$1 stuff.

Normals Books and Records, 425 E. 31st St.

Used stuff galore! In Charles Village, just off Greenmount.

Atomic Books, 3620 Falls Rd.

Comic books, zines, awesome fiction selection... it's hard to leave this store without spending a lot of money. In Hampden.

SUCIDIE

TURN TO PAGE 69 FOR SUCIDIE SET PART I HARDCORE
TURN TO PAGE 27 FOR SUCIDIE SET PART II POP PUNK



ATOMCARLALARRYMATT
LAME MONOXIDE LIVERMORE LAME,
ACE FROM THE STEINWAYS LAME,

INSUBORDINATION FEST 2009 BUYER'S GUIDE

(presented by Mark Hughson, Mike Faloon, Jim Testa, and Noah WK).

When we first started putting together this Buyer's Guide, my thought was that it would help show-goers with only pocket change to spare decide what they wanted to buy at the merch tables. You want to support a band (some of whom have traveled across the nation or an ocean) but your dollars need to stretch for 3 or 4 days. You want to spin a record later to relive the memorable moments of the weekend, but a punk's gotta eat too. So I thought compiling a list of what is essential would help everyone make a reasonable shopping list and budget accordingly. Turns out you have to buy everything. Sorry.

The 20 Belows - Denmark's own 20 Belows have one thing on their merch tables that cannot be passed up. This is their recent split 7inch with their European pals The Apers. The two songs that the 20 Belows contribute to this are simply their best and the Apers tracks are top notch as well. (Noah W. K.)

The Apers - As we are all familiar with The Apers earlier material I want to tell you a little bit about the two new 7inch records they have recently put out. Those records being the split with the 20 Belows and the single for Art Of The Underground. The single may be out of press but if they happen to still have copies you better snag one before it is too late. The split with the 20 Belows is simply a must have. The four tracks that The Apers spread out between these two slabs of vinyl are some of their best work. Also, just in time for the Fest The Apers will have their brand new full length on Asian Man Records, and if these four songs are any indicator of what the album will be like, the album will be in my top 10 records of the year. (Noah W. K.)

The Adorkables - These new school upstarts came on to the scene a few years ago, and their back-to-basics approach walks familiar ground but it executed excellently. The sound doesn't grow much past the roots of "pure" 90s pop punk, but whoa-oh-ohs are timeless material if you ask me. Their debut album *She Loves Me Not* on Insubordination is leaps and bounds above their previous self-released material. Recommended for fans of the Lillingtons and a needle that doesn't quite reach the red on the wank-o-meter. -MH

The AV Club - Easily the most underrated band on the Insub roster. Their self-titled release on Insubordination is chock-full of punk enthusiasm filtered through huge pop hits. It's simple, catchy stuff, but by no means "dumbed down" pop punk. In fact, each listen is more rewarding than the last, as you can trace more closely the unfolding melody and sink into the layered harmonies. Lemonheads fans should take note. One of the top 10 releases of 2007. -MH

Beatnik Termites - One of the very few bands that successfully blend the snotty and poppy camps of the pop punk genre. The fact that we have to wait years between releases is unfortunate, but it's an indication that Pat Termite spends a lot of time perfecting each delectable hit - like a fine dessert that looks almost too good to eat. Every album is great "oldies-core," but *Taste The Sand* is a classic and one of the best pop punk albums of all time. -MH

Boris the Sprinkler - Boris the Sprinkler was the heart, mind, soul, and libido of Geek Rock America through most the nineties, especially from '95 to '99 when they could, and did, no wrong. You'll solve pi before you track down all of the 7"s from that era, however, so let's stick with the full-lengths. *Mega Anal* and *Suck* are essential. Next in line is *Saucer to Saturn*. The bookends, *8-Testicled Pogo Machine* and *Gay*, are quite fine but recommended only after you've fully absorbed the glory of records two, three, and four. (Beyond that: the Ramones cover record is better than the Circle Jerks cover record. The live records, *Frozen Tundra* and *Cincinnati 1999*, are for lovers of Norb's stage banter who, by the way, owe it to themselves to marinate themselves in the man's solo records.) -Mike Faloon

Challenged - The Challenged rank as one of the most eclectic bands in the NYC pop/punk universe, fusing their hard-charging songs with elements of street punk, ska, and reggae. Gritty, engaging, and often anthemic, combining elements of the Clash, Op Ivy, and Bouncing Souls, the Challenged have two albums well worth checking out: 2005's 8-song self-released debut *Home Is Where You Hate It* and 2007's *Relapse* (Cabana 1 Records). (Jim T.)

Copyrights - This is easy: Since the Copyrights have never released a bad record, just buy anything with their name on it. You might want to start with their two most recent full-lengths on Red Scare, "Learn The Hard Way" and "Make Sound," or their excellent split-CD with the Methadones (on their own Transparent label), or the split EP on It's Alive with the Dopamines called "Songs About Fucking." Wherever you start, you'll get fist-pumping Midwestern punk that magnifies simple blue-collar themes into rousing singalong anthems. (Jim T.)

Dead Mechanical - Too much pop nowadays and looking for something harder? These guys eat jawbreakers for breakfast and shit out super chunks of raw rock that slightly smells like new school DC punk. You can't go wrong with any release: the full-length *Medium Noise* on Sex Cells is amazing, and the "A Great Lie" 7" is perfect for those who just want a taste before biting off more than their ears can handle. The split with Full of Fancy is great as well, since you can sample two fine fest bands with one shot. -MH

Dead Milkmen - There's a lot more to the Dead Milkmen than just "Punk Rock Girl," their unlikely hit single that MTV helped turn into a punk anthem. I asked Joe Jack Talcum and he suggested that new listeners might want to start with *Big Lizard In My Backyard*, the band's first album from 1985, and *Beezlebubba*, both of which are still in print on Rykodisc. The band also has a "greatest hits" compilation called *Death Rides a Pale Cow: The Ultimate Collection* that provides an overview of the Milkmen's career and is still widely available. (Jim T.)

Dear Landlord - Yes they have a split out with The Chinese Telephones, yes they have a split out with Off With Their Heads, but if you don't already have these you are a big dummy. The must get here is their brand new debut full length on No Idea Records. Every song is a hit, every song will have you singing along atop your lungs and every song will put a huge smile on your face. So if you haven't already pre-ordered this you best be picking this up at the Fest. (Noah W. K.)

Delay - Every one from little girls to Larry Livermore seem to fall in love with Delay at first sight, and why not? The Ohio trio embodies an earnestness and commitment that's at the very heart of punk. The band's first two LP's have been collected on one CD called *Don't Laugh/Jumpstart My Heart*, 26 tracks of engaging, exuberant Midwest punk that'll have you bouncing around the room like an overcaffeinated teenager, no matter what your age. (Jim T.)

Dillinger Four - What do I even have to say about this band? Pop punk legends. If you are new to the band I'd say you might as well check out their latest release on Fat Wreck *CIVIL WAR*, but if you are slowly becoming a fan based upon their new album you can't really go wrong with any of the earlier albums but I will always recommend one of my favorite albums of all time, and that is Dillinger Four's *Versus God*. (Noah W. K.)

Egghead - These New York wiseasses were doing brainy, catchy nerd-punk back when the Ergs were just starting junior high. Check out their only full-length, *Dumb Songs For Smart People* on Mutant Pop, or scour eBay for some of their out-of-print 7-inches. (Jim T.)

Festivals - A reverse super group gimmick that was created to dupe beers off the crowd and scam their way into Insubordination Fest. That being said, if you like Charlie Brown Gets A Valentine and Nancy and can spare the price of a Natty Boh, track down one of the members (look for shorts on stage, facial hair, and lawyer-speak) to obtain a copy of Gold Magic, this year's CDR release. -MH

Full of Fancy - Song after song Erin and Miranda hit the harmonies while Evan, le drummer, keeps things moving along, up-tempo but not too fast. It's pop! Wait, it's punk! No, it's both and it's all pretty great. Comparisons to cub are common, and mostly accurate, but I hear a lot of that dog, too. (Note: Full of Fancy are the only one of the three bands to resist the e.e. cummings approach to capitalization. No animal references either.) Not what you expect from Whoa Oh, which is a credit to both band and label. One more gem in the crown of engineer Chris Pierce (Ergs, Measure). -Mike Faloon

The Gateway District - A few years ago this band released a 7" and those smart enough to check it out were greatly moved by this band's crafty songs. This band is from Minnesota so obviously has its influences rooted there. However, the smartest of the people who checked out this band's 7" is now releasing this band's debut full-length album, that man being Adam Alive. Knowing the quality of stuff that he and Jenna put out and the quality of song writing that this band displays this album will be a great grab at this year's Fest. Lord knows it is on my shopping list. (Noah W. K.)

The Guts - This band has been the backing band for both Ben Weasel and Wimpy Rutherford and Geoff has even played in The Queers. What more can you want? Well to start off they have a split 7" coming out with Kevin Ape's other band The Jizz Kids and a full length coming out on Dave Parasite's Kid Tested Records. A good starting point with this band is their latest full length on Rally Records titled *Let It Go*. And while I am on the subject of name-dropping, both Hallie Unlovable & Ben Weasel sing on this album. (Noah W. K.)

The Hextalls - This band will have three cds, one LP, one 7", two t-shirt logos and some excellent looking buttons on their merch table. And quite frankly you can't go wrong buying any of it. I hear they don't play much off their older cds anymore so going with *Don't Call It A Comeback* on either cd or LP or "Kick Your Ass At Mini-Golf" on 7" will probably be your best bet. Also their t-shirts come on a variety of different colors, so if you are sick of wearing the typical black or white tees go with one of their logos on a colorful t-shirt. (Noah W. K.)

INSUBORDINATION FEST 2009 BUYER'S GUIDE

Jetty Boys - Ben Weasel became an early advocate for the Jetty Boys' powerpop-fueled punk tunes when he introduced them to the nation on Weasel Radio, then had the band open for his solo band at Reggie's Rock Club. The Boys' self-titled debut album on Rally Records includes instant pop-punk anthems like "Telephone Man" and "The Way It Goes." (Jim T.)

John Walsh - This positive band sent me their demo to review and I had nothing but positive things to say about it. They don't have an official release out yet but by picking up this demo you are probably getting the best demo available at the fest. After a weekend of sugar sweet pop goodness it'll be nice to sit back and listen to the more aggressive John Walsh. For fans of The Dopamines, Dag Nasty, and 7 Seconds. (Noah W. K.)

Kepi Ghoulie - If you don't have Kepi's gatefold double LP of *American Gothic* and *Hanging Out* you are greatly missing out. It gives you the upbeat electric songs similar to his days with The Groovie Ghoulies and the smooth, slower acoustic tracks that Kepi is so good at. It is also covered with his art which is always superb. I hope Kepi brings more of his art to sell at the Fest because the Whale he painted for me a while back needs a friend. (Noah W. K.)

Kung Fu Monkeys - Here are 20 some odd words for you. "Christmas for Breakfast: 41 Toe-Tapping Head-Bopping Hip-Swinging Hi-Fi Bug Beat Kiddie Pop Audio Adventures: Singles and Rarities, 1996-2008" Buy it. It has everything you can possibly need from this band all on one disc. (Noah W. K.)

Leftovers - These young guns from Portland ME rank among the most talented inheritors of the Weasel/Queers pop/punk sound of the Nineties. While they should have their brand-new album *Eager To Please* with them at Insub Fest, you can't go wrong checking out *On The Move* (Rally Records) or *Party Tonight!* (Cheapskate), both filled with driving, singalong shoulda-been hits that connect to the 60's party vibe that the Ramones mined so well. (Jim T.)

Lemuria - Lemuria's that rare hybrid: an indie-rock trio with sophisticated lyrics, delicate melodies, and engaging male/female vocal interplay, yet with unimpeachable punk rock credentials. Start with *Get Better*, the 2008 album on Asian Man that saw all the band's many virtues at their peak, then (if you can find a copy,) delve into *The First Collection* (Yo Yo Records) that collects many of the band's split 7" and compilation appearances. (Jim T.)

Le Volume Etait Au Maximum - Get over the language barrier you ninnies! Le Volume are a kick ass band who play synth laden pop punk. Yes they sing in French but hey what's the big deal? Their latest album *Les Vacances* is great the whole way through. They even cover the Screeching Weasel classic "Your Name Is Tattooed On My Heart" mixing both English and French vocals on it. Man I love this band and so should you. (Noah W. K.)

Loblaws - The brief resurgence of Mutant Pop Records was worth it just for the *Won't Stop 7"* alone. 4 cubes of sugar that recall the best of the 50s-inspired buzzpop that once ruled many of our turntables before we grew up and grew beards and got jobs that we avoid with random discussion. Fans of the Beatnik Termites and the Proms should look into grabbing a copy. It gets one of my highest recommendations, but those who are looking for a two-fer should grab the split with the Sci-Fi Nightmares. -MH

Marshmallows - Pop Punk Message Bored sweethearts Crystal B. and Kelly Lynn Sullivan join forces with Danny Z. (of the Used Kids) to create the sugary grrl-powered pop of the Marshmallows. They'll have homemade CDR's of their 3-song demo (as well as t-shirts and pins) at the Fest, and afterwards keep your eyes peeled at myspace.com/themarshmallows for debut releases info. (Jim T.)

Nancy - Binghamton, NY offers us this enigma of a punk band. They rock the crowd with barrels of energy and passionate playing that new bands have yet to rev up to. That being said, their melodies are fast and their lyrics are wordy, so the anthems are hard to sing along with. The guitar parts are catchy and stimulating but are too complicated to accurately air-guitar to. I love this band, and *The Fear of Missing Out* on Sex Cells is superb, but this is a live band you don't want to miss and certainly one you'll want to keep an eye on. -MH

One Short Fall - Another new album released by Dave Parasite's label Kid Tested Records. This one being on the harder side of the spectrum. Mixing punk rock ethics elements of Rancid and Nofx with the catchy hooks of the Bouncing Souls and Green Day, One Short Fall delivers their full length *Nothing Left To Say* and it isn't an album that should merely be passed by. I am excited to see how they execute the raw energy of their album on stage. (Noah W. K.)

Pansy Division - Released in Spring, 2009 *That's So Gay* (Alternative Tentacles) updates the classic Pansy Division pop-punk sound with heavier guitars and more fully evolved melodies, courtesy of newest member Joel Reader (ex-MTX, Plus Ones.) There are still plenty of explicit, raunchy odes to gay sex and cute boys, but PD also delivers a strong message here about standing up to homophobia, including a rousing duet between singer/guitarist Jon Ginoli and Jello Biafra on the hilarious "Average Man." The best of the band's Lookout years is collected on *The Essential Pansy Division* compilation (Alt. Tentacles.) Also highly recommend: The recently-released DVD "Pansy Division: Life In A Gay Rock Band" that features a fun and informative documentary along with a second disc of live video from throughout the band's career. (Jim T.)

Parasites - The Parasites have been recording since the mid-1980's and much of the band's discography is out of print, but happily that long career is nicely summed up with *Retro Pop Remasters (Best Of)* released on Go Kart Records in 2006 and still readily available. Once you've caught up with the back catalog, check out the band's 2009 release, *Solitary* (on Kid Tested Records,) which shows that frontman Dave Parasite's gift for instantly hummable pop-punk classics remains in full force. (Jim T.)

Psyched To Die

With ex-members of the Ergs!, Hunchback, and For Science, PTD is a NJ supergroup that re-invents classic D.C. hardcore with a tongue-in-cheek nihilistic bent. Expect a bunch of fast 'n' furious songs about offing yourself on the band's debut EP, "Sterile Walls," on Grave Mistake/Firestarter Records. (Jim T.)

The Repellents - I don't know what else this band may have but I do know they have one kick ass live album. I usually do not dig on live albums to often unless it was a show I was at, but this live album straight up slays. Hearing this live album alone gives me confidence that anything this band has out will be great, so I will not be shy around their merch table. (Noah W. K.)

Serlingtons - These Binghamton, NY brats are a fine example of the next generation keeping the scene alive while the older crowd fades out to the punk pasture. Kyle Serlington collects vinyl like it's his job, and promotes, attends, and plays shows with an enthusiasm that's rare and welcome. The band performs slices of snarly, barky, frantic punk rock that equal parts Ramones, Off With Their Heads, and the Sci-Fi channel. They also get better each time I see them - thus leading me to advise you to pick whatever their most recent release (whatever that is). -MH

Sick Sick Birds - Their *Chemical Trains 7"* was one of my most spun records back in 2007, and I'm glad to see the Baltimore-based outfit maintain the quality level with their brand new release on Toxic Pop. When you're walking the tight rope of indie and punk, it's got to be hard to balance originality and accessibility, and it's got to be hard to resist the temptation of falling into the net of speed and volume. SSB seem to walk that line without quivering, and for that I commend them. The new 12", *Heavy Manners* is a buffet of everything you like about 80s midwest indie rock and DC punk, served in a vinyl bowl for those hungering for a local delicacy. -MH

Squirtgun - Although a few of the band's earlier albums and 7-inches on Honest Don's/Fat and Lookout are still available (Interpunk has quite a few,) I'd point new fans to *Broadcast 02-09-08*, a live best-of collection released last year by Dave Parasite's Kid Tested Records. Reuniting the original Squirtgun lineup, with Matt Clark on vocals, Dan Lumley on drums, and the Giorgini brothers (Mass and Flav) on bass and guitar, the live sound is impeccable and the set includes crowd favorites like "Social," "Mary Ann," and a cover of Common Rider's "Classics of Love." (Jim T.)

Steinways - Music reviews! The now-defunct Steinways were the epitome of the girl-pining, school-hating, self-deprecating pop punk image. Where the band really made their mark was with their sound(*man*). Rather than 3-chord it and yelp the stanza x 4, the NYC four-piece crammed so many ideas into one song you'd be flying out of your chucks two tracks in. But once you're familiar with the carnival ride, you sing along to every word, happily contort to every transition, and bop along to every little mini-solo. It's just as fun as Ramones-core, but without the repetition and the 1234 ad nauseum. It was an entirely new formula, and it still worked. Creativity proved itself not to be dead, and no one was scared away. Truly a landmark era. Please recognize that I, the reviewer whose words are slap dashed on this page hours before deadline know more than you, the reader. Don't even listen to the band, as they will tell you to buy a cheeseburger and some sweatpants instead of one of their releases. *Missed The Boat* on Cold Feet and the *Unoriginal Recipe 7"* on It's Alive are the best Steinways releases. -MH

Teen Idols - These guys have a pretty solid catalog, but when push comes to shove, *Pucker Up!* is the best of the bunch and really stands strong as the best of it's kind (that kind being the slicked-up Honest-Wreck poppy punk with the leather jackets and the heavy harmonies and songs about the life and times of a greaser). There's a group of thought that gives extra credence to young bands who approach pop punk with teenage abandon and raw enthusiasm, and the Teen Idols are one of the few professional, veteran bands that can duplicate that without embarrassing themselves. -MH

INSUBORDINATION FEST 2009 BUYER'S GUIDE

Toys That Kill - Toys That Kill are proof that you can have your cake and eat it too. Their songs can be "grab the torches and storm the castles" aggressive and hit-parade catchy. Their lyrics can be "yeah, me too" direct and completely obscure. Not one *or* the other. One *and* the other. Conjunctions, baby. *Control the Sun* is their best record from start to finish (and that includes the Syd Barrett noodling three minutes into "No One") but the first half of *Shanked* is the best stuff they've ever done. Get both. Debate with your friends. --Mike Faloon

Unlovable - Some might argue (and I wouldn't disagree) that 2005's *Crush, Boyfriend, Heartbreak* launched the NYC pop/punk resurgence, with the utterly irresistible Hallie Bullett singing her heart out on infectious, buoyant gems like "Feelin' All Emo," "Doot Da Doot," and "I Want A Boy." A few years later, the band followed up with *Heartsick*, packed with equally glorious singalongs like "Samantha," "Everything's Overrated," and "Dance Party For 2 (Your Room, 3 a.m.)." Both are available from WhoaOh Records. (Jim T.)

Underground Railroad to Candyland - Knights errant performing heroic feats in the name of dead birds and gutter balls, riding a wave of surfy guitars and enchanting, anthemic choruses with lyrics that make perfect sense until you think about them. *Bird Roughts* is one of the best records of the decade. (Rumor mill: it's a 12-part rock opera dedicated to the *Razorcake* nation.) And then there are the live shows. Too many drummers, too many singers, cumbersome costumes that'll make you sweat just looking at them. It's a beautiful thing. --Mike Faloon



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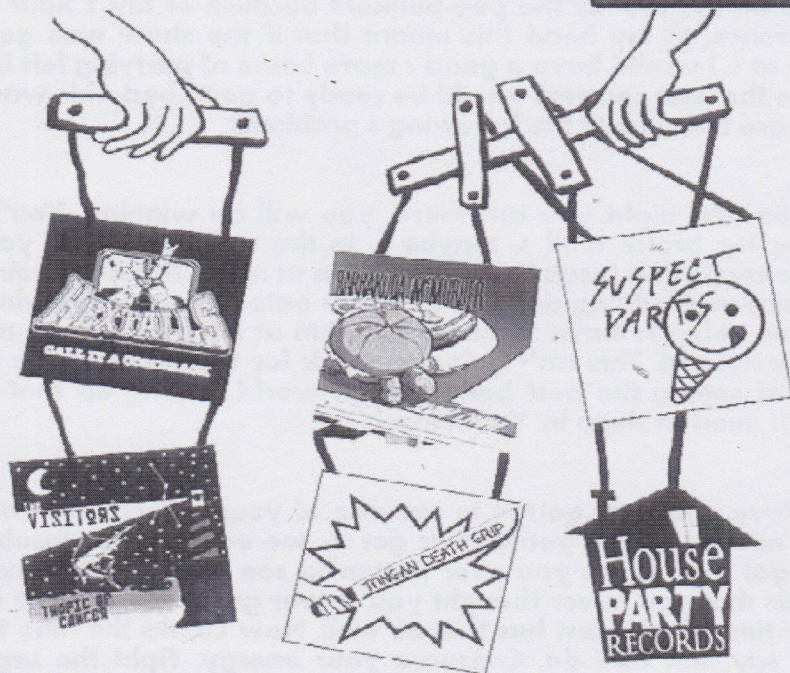
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Insubordination Fest 2009 Scavenger Hunt/Check List

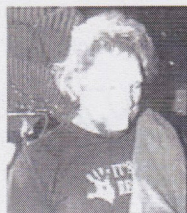
- ☐ Merch from the Interpunk table
- ☐ Merch from the band tables
- ☐ Picture of a band on stage

LADIES ONLY BONUS!

- ☐ Give this guy a hug!



HOUSE PARTY RECORDS.CA



Chris Crusher

A West Coaster's Guide to Insubordination Fest

I am a football fan. There is nothing I love more than waking up on a Sunday with a couple early beers and watching my favorite team, the Seattle Seahawks, play. When they play at home, the games are generally around 1 in the afternoon which is 4 in the afternoon on the east coast. The Seahawks are generally a hard team to beat at home. However, when they play on the east coast, their games are still at the typical 1 PM start time, and because of my west-coastness I need to make the painful trip from my bed to the couch at 10 AM to watch the game. The Seahawks are usually pretty lackluster in their east coast games. I never understood why this was, until I traveled to Baltimore, MD for the Insubordination Fest for the first time 2 years ago.

Now, arriving in Baltimore for the first time, I thought I had an edge on the rest of the pop-punkers because of my 3 hour time difference. In my head this meant that if the show was getting over at 1, I would have a good 4 more hours of partying left in me while the east coasters would be ready to go to bed. This was not the case because of the following 3 problems:

#1) The first night you are there, you will be winning. You'll be going for broke until 5, maybe 6, in the morning. What you've forgotten is that Insub Fest doors open at noon. If you're going to get any sightseeing done, crab cakes eaten, or pool partying in, you're going to have to be up by 9 AM at the minimum to make the first band. This isn't going to work for the marathon 12 hour day of seeing the best bands in the world coming up that day. You'll need to sleep in. You'll lose.

#2) Have you ever gotten to see one of your favorite bands that you never thought you'd ever get to see ever?? Cool! Insub fest has got that. Have you ever gotten to see one of your favorite bands that you never thought you'd ever get to see ever at 10AM your time? Insub fest has that as well. Now comes the time to do as I say, not as I do. Conserve your energy. Fight the urge to pogo, dance, and/or shake until later in the day. You'll thank me later in the day when everyone else is running out of energy and you're still go-go-going!

#3) I'm the type of person that likes to engage in a few Natty Bo's (Baltimore's resident local swill*) when I'm out on the east coast. I'm also pretty close to the resident train-wrecks of the pop-punk scene. If you're anything like me, it's safe to say that these bonehead 'friends' of mine are going to be having their first pops by 1PM or so in order to kill the hangover from the night before. Typically a little hair of the dog doesn't hurt anyone but the problem with Insub Fest is once the booze starts pouring, it doesn't stop until the money, booze**, power, or time runs out. If you're prepared, money won't run out, and people will probably be buying you drinks if you're broke anyway. The dudes will try to get you drunk (they're gay like that). If the power goes out, you have to find another bar to go drink excessively in until you get to the point where you forget there was a Fest in the first place. The only reason you will have to stop is time. The only problem is, Insub fest is 12 - 14 hours long. No mortal binge drinker can do this without pacing to the point of pain, or blacking out.

The only way to fight the booze problem is to pick which point in the day you can start drinking. From there you will need to fight your way until that time comes and THEN shoot yourself off like a cannon into a drunken tank of fun. There will be dude kisses, too much merch to buy (trust me, the bands want you drunk and throwing money around), and Dillinger Four. You want to be drunk, but you don't want to fizzle out and not remember the fact that you actually did see the headliners, and see proof of it by watching the DVDs (as exhibited by MTX during Insub '07. I got the DVD and sure enough I was on film, up front, pointing and singing EVERY word to Dr. Frank. I don't remember a minute of it).

If you use a little caution on this trip, you will get every opportunity you need to find out firsthand why Baltimore is called 'Charm City***.

Notes:

*don't be scared away from it because its nickname is so similar to 'Natural' beers

** I seem to remember the Booze only running out once in 2007. Baltimore won't make that mistake again. Then again, my memory got blurry about what actually happened around that same time.

***Note to w(b)est coasters only: Don't expect 'Charm' to mean good customer service, smiles, or general friendliness as you would expect on the w(b)est coast. The charm is mostly found in sighs, laziness, and crazies yelling on the street. Don't let it get you down. You'll be home soon enough.





Nate Gangelhoff

Answers to Baltimore Questions That No One Asked

Hello there! By the blank look on your face I'm guessing that you've just arrived in Baltimore and you're not really familiar with the city. Perhaps your only knowledge of it comes from the "Fun Facts" section of the WCities website, which reads:

"The pride of Baltimore is its Inner Harbor, which was redeveloped in the 1970s and features an array of dining and entertainment venues. Baltimore was also home to the first American umbrella factory in 1828. In recent years Baltimore has gained a national and international reputation because of the television shows that are set there, such as Homicide, The Wire, and The Corner"

"Yeah yeah, Baltimore" you say "They were ahead of the curve on umbrellas 181 years ago and since then it's been mostly murders and poverty. Who cares anyway, let's eat some fuckin crab cakes"

Fair enough, but perhaps deep down you realize that there's probably more to Baltimore than misery and long-since-shuttered umbrella-making factories, and you have some questions that you'd like answered in an attempt to increase your Baltimore knowledge (or Baltiknowledge).

No, you don't? You truly don't give a fuck? Well, for the purpose of this article we have to pretend that you do. So play along please.

Why is it Called "Baltimore", Anyway?

For many years people assumed that the name "Baltimore" was coined to retaliate against a crappier city called "Baltiless". Once the new Baltimore arrived on the scene, most Baltiless residents felt like inferior chumps and fled their city, leaving behind their elderly and less fortunate fellow citizens to fend for themselves. Eventually these so-called "deadenders" died out and the smoking city rubble became an innovative new garbage pit for the rapidly expanding Baltimore. Sewage lines were run directly to the pit, and cocky Baltimore residents would often say "Takin' a piss / on Baltiless!" as they used the bathroom, even though this didn't really rhyme all that well.

A gripping story to be sure, but as it turns out the city was actually named after some guy named Cecilius Mault. Yeah.

Right now you're probably going "Guh?" Or maybe your confusion cuts deeper and you're getting frustrated, your blood pressure

jerking upward a bit as you think "Why the fuck is this city named after a guy called Cecilius?"; your eyes darting around as you think "Can I even trust anyone here?"

Well, slow the hell down. See, Cecilius Mault was also the "2nd Lord Baltimore", the "Lord Baltimore" referring to some confusing Irish system of peerage that no one probably cares much about nowadays. Bottom line: Cecilius was the 2nd Lord and he was also the first proprietor, or governor basically, of the Maryland colony. Baltimore, in case you didn't know, is part of Maryland, which at same point bumped up from Colony to State. So, all of this sort of makes sense.

Interesting facts about Cecilius: the charter for Maryland was actually meant for his dad, but he died five weeks before it was issued so Cecilius got it instead. Also, Cecilius never actually visited Maryland despite being its Proprietary Governor. Can you imagine how that shit would fly nowadays? Tons of easy attack ads, right there.

Why is the Baltimore Baseball Team Called the Orioles?

Orioles is kind of a weird, goofy sounding word. It sounds like you're staggering through a doorway, drunk and demanding oreo cookies. Why on earth would you name a baseball team something like that?

"Ok Johnson, I suggest we go with either the Baltimore Blasters or the Baltimore Bandits"

"Nah, let's go with something catchy like Orioles. Or Meanderers"

Pretty ridiculous, huh? I guess the reason they chose that goofy ass name is because it refers to the official state bird of Maryland. Ok, fine, but if you're going to go that route, why not name it after something like Maryland's official State Dessert? Wouldn't you go see a game with the Baltimore Smith Island Cakes in it? I'd check that out over the Orioles in a second.

Have There Been Any Songs About Baltimore?

Ever hear of the song the Star Spangled Banner? That was written by a guy from Maryland as he sat on a boat and watched the British attack Baltimore. A full blown attack on a major city, and this guy is writing songs!

The song isn't really "about" Baltimore though, so to speak. So the answer to this question is probably No.

Have There Been Any Songs Called "Baltimore"?

Sure! Tons. I'll review a few right now, based solely on one listen of their 30 second Itunes sample.

Baltimore - Randy Newman

This sounds kind of awesome in the context of "songs I could plausibly hear while at the dentist."

Baltimore - The Angel and Mystic

Dated, silly electronic/dub music that sounds like Sublime mixed with the background music from an early 90s Coke commercial.

Baltimore - The Tamlins

Reggae with weird effects littered throughout.

Baltimore - The Clintons

Ugggh this is like third-tier frat rock, apparently created by guys who thought "how can we combine the energy of Smashmouth with the urgency of Spin Doctors?"

Lyrics include:

"Dowwwn towwwwn

I've got my g-string on and I'm looking for love

Dowwwn towwwwn

I've got a caffeine buzz and (lyrics removed by itunes)"

Ok, fuck this, there's like 50 more songs called Baltimore to go through. Point is, as you can see, the subject of Baltimore doesn't bring out the best in the average songwriter.

Didn't a Beloved American Author Spend a Lot of Time in Baltimore and is Now Buried There?

Well, yes and no. You're right-- Tom Clancy did spend a lot of time in Baltimore. But luckily for us, he's not dead yet!

So there you have it! That's everything you'll ever need answered about Baltimore. There's nothing else to know; trust me, I'm the expert. Now go out and enjoy the city! Try some delicious crab, or maybe some spider bags, and if anyone stops and asks you about the twinkle in your eye, you can say "Oh, I'm just enjoying my stay in Charm City, sir, where the Orioles play and the first umbrella making factory once stood!", content in your new knowledge. Or you can say "I just scored a bunch of heroin, you fuck" if that's more accurate. Either way.

Yadda Yadda Buttons

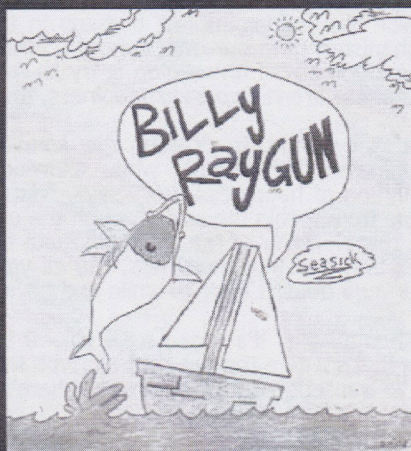
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Jesse Luscious

If Pop Punk is such happy music, where's the mathematical proof, four eyes?

The Himalayan country of Bhutan has come up with something called Gross National Happiness (GNH), in part as an answer to the failing international economy and the rush of outside culture into this small, remote, & mostly undeveloped country.

Bhutan's Secretary of Information & Communications Kinley Dorji said, "You can see what a complete dedication to economic development ends up in. Industrialized societies have decided now that GNP (Gross National Product) is a broken promise." *Developments Magazine* says, "The underlying message is that the country should not sacrifice elements important for people's happiness to gain material development... GNH takes into account not just the flow of money but also access to healthcare, free time with family, conservation of natural resources and other non-economic factors."

Television was introduced 10 years ago, and already David Beckham & 50 Cent have entranced young Bhutanese via the 48 TV channels. The King thought up the idea of GNH in the 1970s, but now there are equations & quantifiable measures of Gross National Happiness.

How cool (& odd) is this? It's a Buddhist way of looking at the world (Bhutan is 75% Buddhist & 25% Hindu), so maybe it's not too exportable. But a Gross National Happiness spiritual movement is a fundamentalist movement I can fully support. Maybe the fundamentalist nutbags in the nearby countries of India, Pakistan, & Afghanistan (and our own domestic fundies) should take some notes & stop trying to *exclude* based on religion & try to *include* based on religion. I mean really, the Bhutanese aren't *imposing* happiness, they're encouraging it.

See, they want to "create the conditions for... the pursuit of gross national happiness" (NY Times), while allowing everyone to come up with their own definition of happiness. Dorji says, "Happiness, as we learn in Buddhism, can only come from within the self, through the understanding of one's own mind. So GNH is the responsibility of the state to create the right environment where the citizen can seek and find that happiness." So all you goths and Nick Cave fans can rest easy, your aura doesn't have to smile and never frown!

Mathematically, it's based on 4 pillars, 9 domains, and 72 indicators of happiness--and that's where the fun starts for you math majors out there. I'm not even going to try to transcribe the equations, but here's the basics:

4 Pillars of a Happy Society:

Economy, Culture, Environment, Good Governance

These 4 are broken down into 9 Domains:

Psychological Well-Being, Ecology, Health, Education, Culture, Living Standards, Time Use, Community Vitality, & Good Governance.

The entire structure is analyzed using 72 indicators. For instance, the domain of "Psychological Well Being" is evaluated by frequency of prayer and meditation, and feelings of selfishness, jealousy, calm, compassion, generosity, suicidal thoughts, &

frustration. (As a card-carrying atheist I'm not excited about the prayer part, but then again, I'm not moving to Bhutan anytime soon)

The equations used are updated every 2 years by nationwide polling, so no doubt different indicators will be added- maybe "annoyance caused by self-serving politicians" or "time used rebuilding virus-ridden PCs" will be in the next iteration.

Speaking of politicians, their monarch voluntarily gave up his power & helped to create the new constitutional monarchy. A democratic government was voted in (one that can REMOVE the King by a 2/3rd vote!), partly as a way to up the GNH. "Happiness is an individual pursuit and democracy is the empowerment of the individual," said Dorji.

This nuanced approach of linking economic development to people's day-to-day existence is lost in the black & white, with us or against us attitudes of craven politicians, US sound bite media, and, sadly, most of us down here in the trenches. For 2 decades economic conservatives have stuck their head in the sand about climate change while the ice caps melt & the atmosphere thins. Media consolidation- mostly beginning in the 1990s under Clinton- has crowded out locally-owned radio & TV stations, and dealt a harsh blow to all newspapers that has been magnified by the effects of on-line reading habits. If the effects on the ability to enjoy/survive in the environment and on the democratic process/educated voters had been a part of those business decisions, there may have been very different results.

I think if you talked with people on the street & said, "The country should not sacrifice elements important for people's happiness to gain material development," almost 100% would agree. From the religious right to the sectarian left, there's a lot of concern about (take your pick depending on your politics) erosion of the nuclear family, commercialization of public life & sports, the increase in homelessness & foreclosures, the dumbing down & impoverishment of public schools, the widening pay gap between the workers and the bosses, the robber barons of Wall Street getting billions of strings-free tax money while we lose our homes, continued environmental destruction thanks to fossil fuels & consumerism, etc. All of these are somehow related to material development trumping what we individually identify as human values. Look, I'm not saying I think that all of these are valid or true, I'm just saying that all of them are rallying points for the grassroots across the political spectrum.

"The founding fathers [of the United States], said John Ralston Saul, a Canadian political philosopher, defined happiness as a balance of individual and community interests. "The Enlightenment theory of happiness was an expression of public good or the public welfare, of the contentment of the people," Mr. Saul said. And, he added, this could not be further from "the 20th-century idea that you should smile because you're at Disneyland." (NYT, 10/4/05)

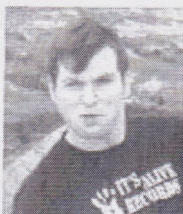
Maybe a series of equations for GNH is one of the few exports Bhutan can give the planet.

Sources:

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Jon Lewis

So I was in the middle of editing a different piece for this piece...and then I had to go to prepare for my fiancé's graduation party...

I swear I racked my brain trying to figure out what to write about that may or may not entertain a bunch of eager pop punkers, but the best (or worst) things in life usually hit you when you least expect it. I know it's an overused cliché euphemism but when this party of sorts kicked in I was wishing I had a book for awkward situations like this. A bunch of oldies telling me they can't wait for my wedding... I don't know you from a shit lined shoe pall! It then became obvious to me that the best thing to write about is exactly that! I mean seriously, if you are reading this now, look to your right and I guarantee there is a person who you don't know, but probably should. Or maybe they know who you are and you don't know who they are. Or vice versa! Or maybe you both don't know who each other is, but you both get the sense that you should, because you argue on the PPMB daily, and you have that nerdy bored ESP thing going on. Ok ok you get it by now. Point is that I'm sick of everyone wasting their time not knowing each other!

To continue with an unnecessary paragraph break...my biggest issue with touring and being in a band blah blah blah is that upfront I'm pretty standoffish, but get to know me and we'll probably get drunk and I'll try to feed you whiskey straight from the bottle, possibly pressuring you into gargling it for punk points. And I am absolutely sure that 90% of people are the same way; it's just the human condition. So I'm going to try and give YOU, YES YOU STANDOFFISH STEVE/SALLY, some tips on how to make some new friends right here where nobody else is from. Good ol' Baltimore!

- If you look at someone, eye contact or not for longer than five seconds, that means you know them from somewhere. So figure it out! Don't be STANDOFFISH STEVE you asshole! Even awkward figuring-out-shit conversation is better than none at all! You might be related!
- If there's someone in a band that you would like to get to know or just give a shameless compliment, DO IT! Don't forget kids, nobody in a band is an actual musician! They're just lucky asses like you except they tripped and fell on a guitar two years ago and accidentally hit a power chord! They'll probably try to buy you a drink to make it seem like they are Oprah rich! So at least you could get a free drink!
- If there is a sweet after party post show with a plush carpet to sleep on, invite me! And DaveNobody because when he throws up on your rug in the morning you won't be pissed that I peed on it in my sleep.

Meet someone new! If you HAVE...TO...just walk up to someone and throw out your PPMB handle! One of three things will happen: They will go, "sweet! I didn't know that was you!" or, WHACK! Cause you just got slapped cause you're REX, or "Haha LAME! You just introduced yourself by your handle!" Regardless you will meet someone new!

If you have an empty beer can, throw it at someone on stage! Then tell them about it! Unless it's Zack Rivethead, then blame it on the person to your left.

If you don't know how to break the ice...here are a few starting lines:

"Dude, doesn't It suck that Team Stray didn't do a reunion for this?"

"Dude...why does Grath even sing like that anyway? Wanna go snort Aderol?"

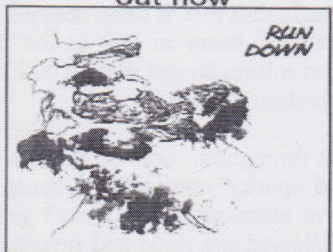
"So, we can all agree that it was stupid that the Dopamines covered 'drink drank punk' instead of an ERGS! Song?"

Ok so if you made it through this article, then you are surely disappointed STANDOFFISH SALLY. Right? It was pretty bad wasn't it. It's ok I'm not within earshot. Well hopefully you will get it in your head that someone else read this, so you will feel more comfortable with making new friends here in BATSHIT BALTIMORE! Or, more likely than not, you will worry if the person you made eye contact with just now read the same article and then you will freak out-and-feel-like-your-lame-and-defeat-the-purpose-of-this-fucking-fuck-articl e! Good luck!

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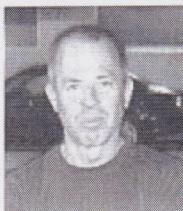
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Larry Livermore

Counting The Cars On The New Jersey Turnpike

They've all come to look for America, that's how the song goes, but what, you might ask, does that have to do with Fest 2009? Well, nothing, actually, except that it was the song playing on my iPod when I realized the column I promised to write for the Fest zine was due in a couple hours and I hadn't written a word of it.

It's not that I didn't think about it. In fact, I figured out what I was going to write over a month ago. But the way my mind works is that once I figure out what I'm going to write about, I assume that the thing is as good as written. Then a week passes, or a month, or however long I've got until my deadline, and then suddenly it's time to actually write the damn thing. By which time, of course, I've completely forgotten what I was going to write, and I've got to start from scratch.

Fortunately that's not the case this time. I remember exactly what I was going to write about, though you're going to have to take my word for that, since this whole story could be an elaborate ruse to cover up the fact that I'm desperately stalling for time while trying to think of something, anything worth saying.

But you know me better than that, whether in person, or through my posting on the PPMB, or my blog, or the various magazines I've written for in the past. If there's one thing you can seldom say about me, it's that I'm at a loss for words. So trust me: what you are about to read has been carefully and studiously ruminated over for at least a month, which is a fancy way of saying that I've been hanging out at the beach, vacantly staring at the sea, and waiting for inspiration to descend on me, if only to discover that it was actually a cloud of sand flies.

Coming back to this fellow counting the cars on the New Jersey Turnpike, we discover that he was doing so because he'd run out of cigarettes, and that in turn reminds me that there was a time when not only could you smoke on a Greyhound bus, it was practically required. Michigan seems like a dream to me now, that's another line from the song, and it hits home with a born-and-bred-Michigander like myself. But the line that really kills me is, "It took me four days to hitchhike from Saginaw."

It never really took me four days - it wasn't even 100 miles from my hangouts in Detroit and Ann Arbor - but as many times as I made that trip, it often seemed that way. One of my first loves lived there - they always seem to live in the most inconvenient places, don't they? - and so there I was rolling up and down US-23 and I-75 in the wind and the rain and my hideous bell bottom trousers.

I fought a losing battle against those bell bottoms throughout most of the late 60s, preferring by far the tight, skinny jeans that I'd sported ever since I became a teenager, but by 1969 no stores were selling them anymore, and I wasn't getting invited to the cool hippie parties, so I finally swallowed my pride and invested \$8 (hey, that was a *lot* of money in those days!) in the most garish pair of paisley bell bottoms that humankind ever devised.

I felt like an escapee from a circus - no, I felt like I *was* the circus - the first time I walked out onto State Street wearing those clown pants, but everybody else (to be fair, most of them were on drugs) seemed to think I looked great, and I not only got invited to two parties that night, I found a date to go with me to my very first fes in far-off New York State, at a place called Woodstock.

Yes, pedants and pissants, I know it wasn't really in the town of Woodstock but in some farmer's field 50 miles away, and no, I didn't wear my new paisley bel bottoms, which would have been completely destroyed by a couple days worth of rolling around in the mud. Unfortunate, that, since those pants and their vomit-colored paisley paramercia would continue to haunt my sartorial nightmare well into the 1970s.

Now if you're a normal, rational person, you're probably wondering how or why I've gone from counting the cars on the New Jersey turnpike to hitchhiking from Saginaw to bell bottom trousers and Woodstock, and how I'm going to tie it into Insubordination Fest Number Four in the year 2009. More to the point, you might be wondering how or why someone who was going to festivals 40 years ago, i.e. before most of you were born, would be turning up in the hot Baltimore sun for three days of pop-punk and beer. Especially when I don't even drink.

Shouldn't I, by all rights, be putting up my feet at the retirement home, or chasing whippersnappers off my lawn? What possible attraction could a bunch of loud music and loud people have at my time of life?

It's funny, because I've written this same kind of column before, more than 20 years ago, when I was a regular contributor to MRR. I thought I was hopelessly old then, despite being a mere lad of 40 or so, and wondered aloud what I was doing hanging around Gilman Street or trying to play in a punk rock band with some kid less than half my age. I don't know what I thought - or more accurately, if I thought - the future would bring, but I don't think in my wildest imaginings I would have guessed that I'd spend my 60th birthday in the pit at an Avail show in Gainesville, complete with clodhopper-clad stage divers kicking me in the head as I made my way to the front for a sweaty, heartfelt embrace with lead singer Tim Barry.

But if I couldn't have foreseen that, what did I think the future would look like? What else did I think I was going to do with my life? I can't sit still long enough to be a good television watcher, and for the same reason I'd never get any reading done if it weren't for train and bus rides. I like music as much or more than I ever did before, and I like the people who play music, who come to shows, who write and talk about it, so ultimately, wouldn't it be kind of retarded if I stopped coming to fests and gigs because I was "too old" for that sort of thing?

Yeah, I suppose there will come a time when I'm too old and too frail to venture out into the pit, but that time hasn't come yet. And while some people might feel self-conscious about being older than everybody else, that doesn't seem to bother me most of the time. Why, I don't know. Some of you guys tease me about it from time to time, but when I'm having a normal conversation or dancing or goofing around, it just doesn't seem to be an issue.

Actually, if I feel self-conscious at all, it's when I'm trying to explain to people my own age where I'm going and what I'm doing for the weekend. About 98% of

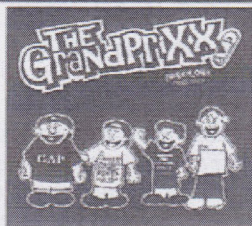
of them either have absolutely no clue about the modern pop-punk scene, or, if they do, can't comprehend why I'd want to be involved with it. But you know what? Most people my age didn't remotely understand what I was about when we were in high school, either.

So, short answer: I do it because it's fun. Maybe someday it won't be fun anymore, but that hasn't happened yet. And maybe I'm crazy, but I'm also having the time of my life, so unless and until the men in white coats come charging into the pit to haul me away, does it really matter? As it says on my old Op Ivy shirt, "Conditioned to self interest with emotions locked away: if that's what they call normal then I'd rather be insane."

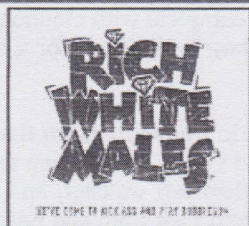
This year's Fest will be extra special for me in a couple ways. For one, I'm bringing my 13-year-old nephew Jackson to his first Fest ever. We might, between the two of us, be the oldest and the youngest people there. And secondly, this Fest marks the first one where I'll be up on stage myself, playing with a band. Well, not just a band, an experience, a concept, a way of life, SUCIDIE! I'm excited about that, and a little nervous, too, of course. But most of all I'll be happy to see all of you again, happy to be part of what, every year since 2006, has managed to be the Best Fest Ever. Can we make it happen again this year? As my man Barack would say, yes we can! And as I myself like to say every year right about this time: are you ready to FESTIFY? See you all in Baltimore!!!

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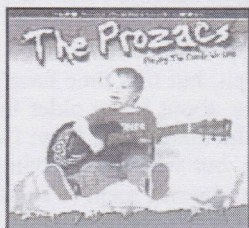
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SUCIDIE

Living Behind Bars

My friends live in a bad part of town
And every time I see them it always brings me down
There's bars on their windows iron grates across their doors
And the whole neighborhood looks like the middle of a war
We crawl through the backstreets in the dead of night
Windows rolled up and the doors locked
Creep up the alley trying not to make a sound
Always looking round for what might be going down

We haven't got a nickel no we haven't got a dime
Can't even get on welfare cuz we haven't got the time
To be pushed and pulled through some bureaucratic slots
And have our lives filed away in some plastic box
I don't know why it is that people have to live like this
Gotta get out before it's too late
Gotta get out whatever it takes

Because we're living behind bars and we got no choice
Living behind bars and we got no voice
Living behind bars and we've got to get away

Intro GD GD - Verse 1 GD GD CG CD - Verse 2 GD GD CG CD
Chorus GCD GCD GCD GCG - Verse 3 GD GD CG CD - Chorus GCD GCD
GCD GCG - Bridge - Chorus GCD GCD GCG - Chorus - Outro

ONE DAY I'LL REALIZE MY DREAMS
ONE DAY I'LL REACH MY GOALS
ONE DAY I'LL HAVE ACHIEVED EVERYTHING
HAVE MY PICK OF PRETTY GIRLS
I WILL TRY I WILL TRY I WILL TRY I WILL TRY
I WILL TRY I WILL TRY I WILL TRY TO GET SUCIDIE SIGNED BY JOHNNIE WHOA-OH

AFTER I'VE GOT A RECORD DEAL AND I'M IN ALL KINDS OF DEBT
I'LL GET SOME SPINS ON THE RADIO AND THEN I'LL BE SET
WITH STATEMENTS AND MAGAZINES I'LL BE A BIG TIME HIT WITH ALL THE TEENS
I'LL START WITH WISCONSIN'S OWN WEASEL RADIO

AND THEN I'LL LOSE MY SHIRT TO THE REDSCARE JERK
HE'LL TAKE ALL OF MY CASH
AND BUY A BRAND NEW CAR FOR TER
SEE THE CURE WITH ALL THE REST
THEN YOU'LL ALL HATE ME, THROW ME OUT OF THE SCENE
SAY IT'S NOT ALIVE, LAUGH AT MY COLD FEET
IF I RALLY BACK KNOCK ASKING FOR A HAND
INSUBORDINATION'S GONNA SAY NO

On the other side of town there's a great big wall
Where the rich man lives he's afraid of it all
He's worried about the people he might happen to meet
If he ever set foot out on the street
And the red lights flash and the sirens howl
And the burglar alarms ring and the guard dogs growl
Old lady fishing through a garbage can
And I still can't seem to understand

Why we're living behind bars and it's time to move
Living behind bars what have we got to lose
Living behind bars and we've got to get away

(instrumental break)

Living behind bars it's seems like we got missed
Living behind bars how did it come to this
Living behind bars and we've got to get away

Living behind bars every night and day
Living behind bars how did it come to this
Living behind bars and we've got to get away

(instrumental outro)
Fuck! That's a lot of words!!

555555555 555577777 X2
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ACHES

HARD CORE
PART 1
SET
FOR SUCIDIE
TURN TO PAGE 69



Livy Star

Symbolic Perceptual Psychological

Rock'n'roll fashion. Oh yeah, that's what we're gonna talk about now! Are you excited? Well, are ya?! With all the different subcultures out there you could say there is a wide variety of crappy fashion statements, but also of a lot of pretty awesome styles that are all linked together by that one strong attitude and mien - Rock'n'Roll. There are some things in particular that stand out more than others. The 1950s, rock'n'roll and punk rock music have influenced and left indentations over the years in lifestyles and fashion trends. Personally I find some of these styles to be pretty swell.

I know there are a lot of rockabilly and psychobilly haters out there, who not only lack the judgment to know good music when they hear it, but who also think pompadours and flattops are the stupidest hairstyles on the planet. Really? That's worse than a dude shaving his head into an undercut or flattening his little "bangs", literally gluing his hair to his forehead, to make himself look like he belongs in some early 90s boyband or some shit? That's right, I went *there*. And let's not forget about the moustache that has been present in the pop punk scene in the last couple years. According to some it's sexy, right? It's not. Oh my, I can't believe I dissed the precious stache! Anyways... Imagine if you will a lead guitarist and singer of a punkrock'n'roll band backstage fixing his hair just before he has to get up on stage and rock the house. He puts pomade in his hair to achieve that 1950s style "greaser" look. Along with the leather jacket, black t-shirt and jeans his dress as well as demeanor are perfect. Creeper shoes have that rock'n'roll edge down to the bone. Cherry red and leopard printed, a perfect symbolic element for such an era. Let's cuff up his jeans and presto! You have yourself a mighty fine lookin' cat. Rawr!

I love rock'n'roll inspired clothes. I am all about the leopard print and have one too many polka dotted dresses in my closet, and I most especially love me a snazzy pair of creepers. I am always in awe by those ladies who take their rockabilly lifestyle and portray it in what they wear and how they do their hair. I wish I were that much of a girl to always want to get dolled up like that. I will also admit that some ladies take it too far though. Buying authentic bathing suits from the actual 1950s may be a tad over the top. But bring on some cherry blossoms and gingham and it's all good again.

What's up with dudes wearing their skinny jeans too low? You want to sag your pants and show off your boxers? Don't wear skinny jeans! It does not look good. Don't get me wrong, I like skinny jeans on a dude, in fact it can look *real* good, but not when they are sagging down around their mid-thighs. It's just wrong. And totally defeats the purpose. And not to point out the obvious, but if you're about 100 pounds overweight, you should probably stay away from skinny jeans too. It's like morbidly obese women wearing spandex. Some things just shouldn't be worn out in public. Too harsh?

When I was working at Bloomies earlier this year I was told that skulls are no longer

in, so we should throw away any clothing items we may own with skulls on them. This came from a 20 year old shapeshifter who followed every fad she spotted in fashion magazines. And this just made me think of all those younger kids who buy anything and everything from stores like Hot Topic because it's the coolest thing on the planet. Don't get me wrong, I've bought some things there myself over the years on occasion, but never have I bought those over-the-top bright neon pink leopard printed pants just because someone somewhere said they were "punk". It just makes me think of all those pseudo punkrock bands that have made millions over the years and started some pretty hideous trends. Good for them, I guess, but I think it's a little sad when kids want to get into that kind of music and follow certain fashion trends because that's all they think there is. I'm sure a lot of them actually think it really does look good, but I am also sure that there are even more "sheep" out there. I could get more into that now, but I think I've already rambled on about enough nonsensical crap for now.

My point merely was this - in this scene we thrive in I think there are a lot of really interesting and awesome looking trends and some people really do have a great fashion sense. Others not so much. But whether or not you think it looks good you can't deny the fact that there is a lot of good variety out there. More so than you would see in any other scene. And I like being surrounded by so much tacky awesomeness. Now, some of you may be thinking "what the hell does she know?!" because you don't like what I wear and how I look. Well, fuck you, I still look better than you! Haha. Just kidding, or am I...?! And on that note, I shall bid you adieu for now. I hate you all for being able to enjoy the Insub Fest without me this year, but at the same time I do miss each and every one of you as well. I'll be back soon enough and you won't be able to get rid of me ever again. And that's a promise! Ta ta and toodles my pretties!!

hype!
extra fuck yeah!
dongbag! 'sup?
edgy stuff!

fest.





Danny Nuthin'

relating to coworkers is a lot of work in itself.

I work with a great bunch of people, I really do. Fred, my immediate boss, is a 70's stoner who worships Keith Richards. We talk old music constantly and compare how today's world is compared to 1972 when he took a year off from everything and just got fucked up for 365 days straight. Besides him's a good group of guys and gals, some close to my age and some right out of high school. We all get along great and even hang out socially on occasion, but when it comes to discussing weekend plans with these guys, all I usually get are blank stares.

Samantha talks about the Reds game she went to the night before. Daniel talks about getting high and playing World Of Warcraft. Josh and Brittany went to a movie and ate pizza. I went and hung out with a bunch of people in a sweaty basement and watched five bands play. That right there's where I lose them.

Most of them have seen a concert. Going and buying Ticketmaster tickets, heading to a big amphitheater, grabbing a beer and taking their seats to watch the show. All that is familiar to them, and that's the picture they get in their heads when I mention that I'm going to watch a band play. When I correct them it gets amusing. Some of them can't imagine that there are different levels of bands, and that people actually tour on their own, traveling the country in a beat up van playing for gas money. Some of them even say that it doesn't sound like they are real musicians, because a real band would have a tour bus, and makes tons of money playing to screaming pre-teens in their eyes. I try to describe my world to them and always come up short.

I took my coworker Daniel to a show in Cincinnati last week to show him the difference. The only concert experience he's ever known is Rock On The Range, a huge two day festival not unlike Lollapalooza or Warped Tour. Loads of concession stands, multiple stages, big burly security guys and unapproachable bands. He's used to seeing bands like Motley Crue, Stone Temple Pilots and Tool. Instead I picked him up and we drove to the Bikehaus in Cincinnati, a third story flophouse that really does have a shitload of bikes and bike parts strewn far and wide. We were to see Banner Pilot, The Gateway District, The Manix, Till Plains and The Dopamines, five bands he knew nothing about.

Two songs into the first band's set I saw that it was starting to sink in just how different these shows are to what he's used to. Daniel turned to me and

said, "It's like being front row wherever you stand!" Hahahaha. The night went on, both the bands and the crowd got drunker and rowdier. After stellar performances by both Gateway District and an unfortunately ill Banner Pilot, The Dopamines set up and all hell broke loose. Two seconds into the first song, some crusty guy starts giving Jon Weiner a wedgie and ends up knocking over a borrowed cabinet. Then the beer cans start flying, both empty and full. It gets to the point that Michael, The Dopamines' drummer actually starts batting beer cans heading his way back into the crowd with his sticks while playing. The show concludes with a heap of bodies and equipment tossed everywhere, and I look over to Daniel and see an expression of true speechlessness on his face.

That ride home was interesting. First off he was amazed that the band members just hung around with everyone else. "I didn't know any of those guys we were talking to were playing until they started setting up!" Then the sheer intimacy of the entire situation hit him, and he finally said, "now I know what you're always talking about at work. That was great!" We then talked about Insubordination Fest, something I mention a here and there at work, one of those things that causes the blank stares. I pretty much told him that the fest is just a bigger version of what he just witnessed, a big party where everyone's having fun and knows just about everyone. You sing along to songs right next to members of your favorite bands, and the whole ordeal is something unexplainable and amazing, and that you can't really compare it to Rock On The Range.

Then I hoped that I had someone who finally understood. After that show, I've ended up burning a few CDs for Daniel. He really likes John Walsh. Have I changed him for the better, probably not. Today at work he was telling me how excited he was because Blink 182 is playing Riverbend with Fall Out Boy and Panic At The Disco. He has an open invitation to ride along to any shows I attend, and I hope he takes me up on it. At work when we discussed our weekend plans and talked about him tagging along for the show, I still had my share of blank stares, but at least I wasn't alone in trying to explain the magic that happens in this little world of ours. They may never understand, and honestly, I probably would never want them to.



Chadd Derkins on Chris Grivet

Chris Grivet is a battering ram shattering everything you hold dear. Chris Grivet is the feeling in your heart when you look out the window while taking a shit, and you see a rainbow. Chris Grivet is love. Chris Grivet is hate. Chris Grivet is the former drummer of The Steinways (playing their final show here at Insub Fest), and the guitarist for The Dispensed. Chris Grivet is the subject of the following interview. By Chadd Derkins

01 - What's your part in the scene?

Generally I play in bands, but I also set up shows, and put up bands when they come through on tour. Other than that, I'm just your average fan and misunderstood internet super-villain.

02 - You've been in several shitty bands, most of them with me. What the hell were we thinking?

Well, when I was 14, I generally wasn't thinking...but you could always write a good, clever song, even if we couldn't play it very well.

03 - Remember the time when you and I both got caught jumping turnstiles by the transit police? And you got out of trouble by saying that your dad worked for the MTA, and I didn't even though my dad works for the MTA too? I guess my question is, what makes your dad so fucking great?

That was on our way to go see NOFX at Tramp's. Woo! Well, for one, my dad likes awesome music. Secondly, he'll put you on your ass pretty much whenever he feels like it. You know this from experience. Don't grab his wrist. *[editor's note: Chris Grivet's dad has a cute little thing he does where he asks you to grab his wrist, and then when you do, he breaks your arm and then murders you]*

04 - If you had to choose one item from your Star Wars bathroom to eat, one to worship as your new god, and one to keep inside of your rectum for 72 straight hours, what would they be?

Star Wars Shampoo, Darth Vader ceramic glow up statue (which you bought for us in Warren, PA), and uh...Star Wars children's toothbrush...in that order.

05 - Now that the Steinways have broken up and your moment in the spotlight is gone forever, what do you plan to do to fill the empty, black void between now and the moment you finally slip into a long-awaited death? Musically, I mean.

I thought the PPMB was my moment in the spotlight? Hmm...musically speaking I now play guitar in a band called the Dispensed (www.myspace.com/thedispensed), and I'm hoping to start another band at some point. On top of that, as long as the Factory keeps producing, I'll keep making beats. *[editor's note: Don't be confused, gentle reader. I don't know what the hell he's talking about either]*

06 - Did you like the movie Transformers or are you a soulless piece of shit?

I'm gonna go with the latter on that one. Other than the fact that Optimus Prime looked awesome in it, I find few redeemable qualities about this movie. Also, contrary to your belief, it is NOTHING like Back to the Future. Nothing.

07 - Imagine the following scenario: After a terrifying plane crash, you are stuck on a desert island with Larry Livermore. Weeks later, as food supplies dwindle, you find yourself

watching Larry intently, studying his body... every muscle, every sinew... One night, as heat and island madness begin to take control of your mind, you find yourself slowly advancing towards him as he sleeps... your soul on fire with a bizarre mix of hunger, regret, and strange eroticism. My question is, what bands do you consider your major influences?

Been there, done...I mean, uh, I guess in the grand scheme of things the typical: Nirvana, Screeching Weasel, Green Day, Rancid, Nofx, Bad Religion, etc. On a more local level though, Dirt Bike Annie and the Ergs! will always be the most important bands to me. (Had to mention them to fulfill the quota.)

08 - How much money do you make a year?

According to Larry Livermore, at least \$100,000 a year.

09 - Can I borrow 6,000 dollars?

Chadd, if I had \$6,000 to lend you, you know I would.

10 - This is a two part question. Part 1: What would you cite as the defining moment in your long experience in the punk rock scene? Part 2: What makes you think anybody gives a shit what you'd cite as the defining moment in your long experience in the punk rock scene?

a) Either our annual gathering at Insubordination Fest or the last Ergs! show at Asbury Lanes and the sob/hug fest that ensued. b) Probably the fact that I played in some shitty band or the fact that I post on some stupid message board. [Editor's note: I don't recall my question having parts a or b, Chris Grivet.]

11 - Jesus, what is wrong with me? Why are you even friends with me?

I ask myself those questions often. I don't think this interview is really long enough for us to delve into those issues.

12 - Final words?

These questions kinda sucked. Personally, I think you give better interviews while getting haircuts. [Editor's note: This is in reference to a dream Chris Grivet once had where he was interviewing Joe Perry for Spin magazine while giving him a haircut]



Wallride Records

checking out the third stage

By Noah W.K.

This will be the second year of Wallride Records putting on a stage at Insubordination Fest. So I came up with some questions for Mike so he can let us know why this stage is not something you wanted to ignore.

Noah W. K. - So this is the second year that Wallride Records will have a stage at Insubordination Fest. How did this all come to be?

Mike Riley (who runs Firestarter and Toxic Pop Records) was asked to do a stage and last year as well as this offered to split it with us. We've known Mike for a long time, we played in a band with him (the Spark) a few years back and the first release on Wallride was the Spark's first 7 inch, which we split with his label. That taught us how to press records and got us started.

Noah W. K. - What were some of the highlights from your stage last year?

The Sw!ms to me were the highlight of both our stage and the whole fest. They were rock solid tight and the newer songs they did influenced us to want to release their new album "Itemlord."

Noah W. K. - What was the band selection process like?

Generally just whichever bands were available to play. Marvelous Darlings don't play much as it is and neither do the Pumpers, plus both bands live pretty far away and we knew we couldn't pay them enough to cover their expenses. The members of Drag the River are busy at the moment, and the Ergs are broken up. We figured this would be a perfect final show for Active Sac. Sac wanted to play last year but it was while Mike Boessler (lead guitar) was on his honeymoon, so its great we can do it this year. Head Home had a great time playing last year and got a pretty good reception, plus Mike Riley asked Head Home pretty soon after he was asked to do a stage. The Sw!ms are a band we all love and we wanted to do everything in our power to make sure they play.

Noah W. K. - I am a huge fan of The Sw!ms and are stoked to see that they are playing and that I'll finally get to see them. However, I have noticed they are quite different from the vast majority of the other bands playing your stage. What do you think it is about The Sw!ms that make them so appealing.

The Sw!ms stand in a league of their own. Wallride has never really released records from two bands that sound alike, so them not "fitting in" was never a concern. They write perfect pop songs and have a great stage show, and Lee Ashlin is probably the best drummer playing the whole fest. I've never heard a Sw!ms song I didn't love and I've never seen them play a bad show. They blow my mind more and more each time.

Noah W. K. - Other notables on your stage this year for me at least are Tenement and The Ringers, two bands who are not on your label, how did it come to be that these bands would play your stage.

toxic pop & wallride records present the insubordination fest 2009 3rd stage

CLOAK / DAGGER

RINGERS

TENEMENT

THE SW!MS

SLEEPWALL

HEAD HOME

CLINT MAUL

ACTIVE SAC

IN THE HOLLOWS

ANIMAL POISON

Saturday, June 27th, 2009
at the Taffery Head @ 3604c 402 E. Saratoga St. Baltimore, MD
\$10 or FREE w/insubordination fest pass
doors at 1pm / first band at 1:30pm
at.ajest / www.ajestbaltimore.com

**toxic pop
records**

Mike Riley booked them; to be totally honest I've never heard either band but I'm excited to see them.

Noah W. K. - Are there any new Wallride releases of bands playing this year? If so tell us about them.

The Sw!ms just released their second full length "Itemlord" a few months ago and we couldn't be more excited about it. As much as I loved their first album (Ride of the Blueberry Winter) this one blows it out of the water. Every song is perfect, the production is stellar and EV-9D9 is in the running for my favorite song of the year. Head Home and Active Sac are both in the middle of recording new full lengths. We're hurrying to get drum tracks done before Joe Rankin, the drummer of both bands, moves to Hawaii. Insubordination Fest will be his last show with both bands.

Noah W. K. - Why should people spend time at your stage instead of hanging around the other stages seeing bands like Lemuria, Egghead, The Parasites and Dear Landlord to name a few?

I would hope people would like to be introduced to some bands they've never heard before, or maybe just want a break from pop punk for a little bit. There's bound to be something on our stage that piques your interest whether its Active Sac's pop punk, Head Home's shoegazy indie rock, the Sw!ms' psych-pop perfection or Cloak/Dagger's raw punk assault. Plus our stage ends before any of the headliners go on, so no one has to worry about missing Dillinger Four.

Noah W. K. - Do you guys spend the whole day at your stage or will you guys be wandering around trying to catch some other sets?

A lot of the day will be probably be spent at our stage, but I definitely plan on walking around a bit and meeting some people, seeing some friends from out of town and checking out some new bands.

Noah W. K. - Be it your stage or not, which sets are you most excited for at this year's Insubordination Fest?

I'm ecstatic about Dillinger Four, the Sw!ms, playing with Joey one last time (well, two last times), Cloak/Dagger, Dead Mechanical, the Parasites, Psyched to Die and the Dead Milkmen.

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Like Bats

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Rational Anthem

Rumspringer

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THE ABDUCTED

Interview by Noah W.K.

Do you know who The Abducted are? Do you know who is in the band, what they sound like, why they reunited to play at Insubordination Fest? If the answer is no to any of those questions this interview with the band will serve to be extremely helpful in your familiarization with the band that is The Abducted.

Noah W. K. - A lot of people have been talking about how they are unfamiliar with the band The Abducted. Can you give us a brief history of the current state of the band, and take a moment to describe your sound to the readers?

The current state of the band is that Juan and Christian still live in the Northern Virginia wasteland, working, having families, and generally being responsible human beings. Azeem is in school in NY and also in sixty-three other bands at the moment, Todd (that's me) is living in Reno, working for a video game company as a writer, and working on two books. The quick story with the band is that we formed in '95 or so, recorded a CD for VML, played a bunch of shows, couldn't keep a drummer for more than ten minutes at a time, lost interest (well, Juan and I hated each other by the end - which is strange, as we were best friends for years before that and are again good friends now), broke up, then were told that people still cared about us some 10 years later. Our sound? That's a tough one, as our later stuff is way less "pop punk" than our earlier material, and in my opinion, much better. Problem is, nobody's heard it, as most of it was never released. In any case, we're catchy and fast and full of energy and usually angry. We worked hard to create music that you could sing along to on the way to go murder someone. Failing those vague descriptions, we're punk pop with occasional blast beats. I don't know, cross "My Brain Hurts" era Screeching Weasel with, say, the Bad Brains record for an idea. "Sailin' On" is a song that could have fit on our record, for example. Or just go to our MySpace... <http://www.myspace.com/abductedhateyou>

Noah W. K. - The Abducted are obviously on the harder end of the pop punk spectrum, nonetheless still pop punk. How would you describe the often loosely thrown around term "pop punk"?

You can split hairs on any artistic subgenre, you know? I'd rather that bands were just classified as "punk," leaving it up to the listener to decide the rest. To me, "pop punk" has mostly terrible connotations, as there's such a glut of crappy bands in the genre (though that can very, very, very easily be said for ALL genres of music - it's 95% crap, 3% passable, and 2% brilliant. I have empirical evidence to support this). Thing is, there's still a lot of great "pop punk" bands. Dillinger Four? They're called "pop punk" and it just strikes me as ridiculous. They're smart and intense political punk that you can sing along to. A band like Teenage Bottlerocket is far closer to the now-traditional definition of the term, but to me they're just a good punk band. The Ramones weren't called "pop punk," were they? And after examining the musical touchstone they provided for all of punk music, I just don't see why we have to

dissect things to such a level. I guess it passes the time on boring winter nights, but so does whiskey.

Noah W. K. - This show at Insubordination Fest is a reunion for the band. How did the decision of reuniting come about? Why at Insubordination Fest?

Juan called me and said there was interest at Insubordination Records to re-release our CD, and then maybe have us play the fest. I thought he was drunk. Turns out, he was serious. He and I laughed pretty hard for a while, wondering why our old band still mattered. But the thing is, when I was finally able to be honest with myself about it, I realized that it still mattered to me, and I think Juan (and Christian, and Azeem) feel the same way. I mean, shit: for my Master of Fine Arts thesis in nonfiction, I wrote about the band quite a bit. And people wanted to read it. There's something important there, something to the band Juan and I tried to lock in the attic like an embarrassing relative for so many years. It appears that we have more fans now than back when we were active (not that that's saying much), so if we can have fun with the music again and give something to other people to enjoy, why not? Why at Insubordination Fest? It's the biggest and best gathering of good punk music in the country, that's why.

Noah W. K. - What is the typical crowd for an Abducted show?

You have to understand that there was a pretty strict dichotomy there: When we played locally in DC, everyone hated us. Or were just apathetic. When we played elsewhere, people were into it. The main complaints against us in DC were twofold: We were jerks (and it's true that we were antagonistic, mainly Juan and me, which is a typical human response when you're excluded from the scene, as we were - it's like that old Clash lyric that goes "If someone locks me out / I'll kick my way back in"). We weren't "political" enough. I remember at one of our last DC shows, some kid was heckling us. I gave him the mic so he could have his say. He said, "Oh yeah, the Abducted are so cool. They don't care about anything. They don't like politics." I took the mic back and told the kid we sang love songs, and then counted the next one off. In hindsight, I just should have hit him, because arguing with DC scenester kids back then was like talking to a wall of wannabe-poor idiots who were scared to fuck. But when we played college towns up and down I-81, people were into it. Everyone. Not just the punk kids. I remember we played a house show in Blacksburg, VA once that rocked so hard the 2-story floor we were on was bowing from everyone dancing and singing along. THAT was why we kept doing it for as long as we did. Those shows were some of the most fun I've ever had. Ever.

Noah W. K. - You recorded your only full length to date with Joey Vindictive, who coincidentally is one of my punk rock idols. What was that experience like?

We didn't record with Joey V., unfortunately. What happened was that I sent him a demo tape sometime in mid '96 and he called me a week later, offering to put out a record for us. We went back to the great Big Sound Studio in MD (r.i.p.) to record what became our record. We did the whole thing in one day, because that's what we could afford. And the quality of the vocals, mine in particular, show that singing punk songs for hours and hours straight means that your voice sucks. That's really the most cringe-worthy aspect of the whole thing for me personally - my attempts at singing.

In any case, we shipped off the masters to Joey, who then did his engineering magic thing (it involved a "sonic maximizer" and that's all I really know, but it sounded

better after he mixed it), then we were told that cover art would be done for us (big mistake, as none of us ended up liking the cover in the slightest) and that we should set up a tour and so forth. We received our boxes of CDs a couple months later and went out on our first disastrous tour. As far as our interactions with Joey, it was mainly phone calls. He's an entertaining and smart guy who tells unusual and hilarious stories. Juan and I would spend hours on the phone with him, just shooting the shit. I remember back then that I'd gone from singing along to the Vindictives to having somewhat of a personal relationship with Mr. Vindictive himself. That meant a lot to me back then and it's still a good memory.

Noah W. K. - One of your ex members went on to be in the band Strike Anywhere, what other bands can be linked to The Abducted?

Yeah, Eric "You guys are jerks who drink and fight too much" (he was right) Kane went on to apply his amazing drumming for Strike Anywhere. Juan was in a band called the Shakedown, who released a record or few, toured quite a bit, and rocked a lot for sure. Our first rhythm guitar player, Johnny Gaunt (the "Johnny" from "Johnny is a Drunk") is now playing fiddle for Chuck Ragan. Johnny Gaunt can play the living fuck out of a fiddle (he and I had a brief and quickly aborted folk rock thing back in 2001 or so, where he fiddled and I played acoustic guitar and sang, and let me tell you: HE CAN PLAY THE LIVING FUCK OUT OF A FIDDLE), so it's good to see him get recognition for that. Azeem, of course, has been in a million bands since then, most notably the Steinways, who are/were good shit indeed. Currently, I'm playing guitar and singing in a punk band called the Firebombing out here in Reno. Bob from Zoinks! is our drummer. Small, small world when it comes to punk rock.

Noah W. K. - This question is for Azeem (Ace). What is it like to be playing a reunion show and a final show all in one weekend?

Not to belittle Mike Erg's monumental six sets this year, but I'm hoping the heart attack induced by playing four sets on the same day won't be too excruciating. I'm pretty psyched, though. I'm really excited to hang out with these dudes again. The four of us haven't been in the same room at the same time in well over ten years. Old band playing a reunion, current band (Steinways) playing a final show, and new band (House Boat) playing our second show (technically. An allusion to books with chapters opening and closing would fit here, but everyone knows books aren't p0nx... and I don't actually know how to read. Chris Grivet says it's like getting your first beej while getting hit with a spiked baseball bat. Can't argue with that, really.

Noah W. K. - Now for the final and most important question; why should people stick around to watch the entire Abducted set instead of running over to see Pansy Division?

The Abducted always played every show as if we were being executed immediately following the set - we weren't done until we all hurt and I was bleeding from playing the bass. We played as if it was the only thing we could do at that moment in order to keep living. That's one of the things that distance us from so many "pop punk" bands. You can either go listen to a cute pop band put on a well-practiced show (don't get me wrong, Pansy Division is good), or you can watch four guys playing and singing so hard it's as if they're trying to kill both the audiences and themselves through the sheer amount of energy and soul they're putting into the music. You can go bop around to catchy tunes or you can listen to us all the way through and when we're done, you'll feel it in your heart, because that's where we're going to wound you.

The AV CLUB

Interview by Danny White

Danny: It's been a while since we've heard anything from the AV Club. What's the band been up to as of late?

Jon: Taking care of babies. Aaron and I both have new offspring.

Danny: So, how's fatherhood treating you? What's the best part of being a punk rock dad?

Jon: So far so good. My son, Oliver, loves the Riverdales and the Copyrights. If he starts crying on a car trip, I just put on *Phase 3* or *Mutiny Pop* and he quiets right down.

Danny: How's that second album coming along? When will we get our hands on *Believe*?

Jon: The basic tracks for *Believe* have been finished for a while, but we are still working on odds and ends. We locked in a studio in Baltimore to mix the album but the release date is still a moving target. Recording a record yourself is both a blessing and a curse. If we didn't have jobs, the record would be out tomorrow... but I know it will be worth the wait. No one wants the album finished more than we do.

Danny: The AV Club's sound is kind of hard to describe, it's definitely not the typical "pop punk" that you'd find at Insub Fest. How would you explain your band to someone who's never heard it before?

Jon: I like pop/punk bands and the crowd of people that are associated with those bands, but I've never really played that kind of music. The AV Club is a pop/rock band along the lines of the Replacements, Superdrag or Fountains of Wayne. If I could point to other bands in the pop/punk world that are doing something similar, I would say the Influents, the Obsoletes, maybe even Big in Japan or The Plus Ones. A younger crowd probably isn't going to like what we do. If I were 17, I honestly wouldn't like the AV Club. But I'm 30, and I'm playing music for me and my friends. Fuck the kids! Why would I want to entertain a bunch of teenagers, when I've cornered the market on the over 25 crowd.

Danny: If the AV Club were to do a cover album in the vein of the Ramones cover albums, what artist and album would you tackle?

Jon: Well, I still think someone needs to man up and cover *Mondo Bizarro* or *Adios Amigos*. I'm looking at you, Teenage Bottlerocket! But, The AV Club theory on covers is that you should only cover songs that you have absolutely no business covering... either something super big and grandiose or completely out of character. Recently, we've covered "Born to Run" in its entirety and this year's Insub Fest set will contain a monster ballad.

Danny: If each member of AV Club were really a part of the secret strike team known as GI Joe, what would each person's code name and specialty be?

Jon: God, that movie is going to suck. I love GI Joe, but it can't possibly be good. Ok, um... actual characters, I think I would want to be Flint, cause Lady Jay needs it bad... Jens would be Major Blood, because of the accent and Aaron would be Snow Job. Seriously, Snow-fucking-Job... I bet that was a fun day in the office.

Danny: You're part of a great line up with this year's Insub Fest. What band are you most looking forward to seeing?

Jon: The Dead Milkmen. One of the first bands I ever got into and I never got a chance to see them. I'm super excited! I'm also looking forward to seeing the Teen Idols and Pansy Division.

Danny: With the long days and the intense heat, sometimes Insubordination Fest can feel like an endurance test. What's your secret to surviving the weekend?

Jon: Drugs. Lots and lots and lots of drugs...



PLUG: The AV Club's self titled debut is available on CD from Insubordination/Knock Knock Records and digitally available on iTunes and Emusic. Their set from Insub Fest 2007 is also available on CD/DVD and as a digital download. Look for the new album *Believe*, in the near future.

BACKSEAT VIRGINS

Interview by Andy Cretin

billymtx:First, and this is a question from my girl, What are the chances of your girl and my girl making out at some point in the near future?

RR:I'm going to leave that one up to the girls but I'm pretty sure that would lead to an indecent proposal of an AndyCretin/RapidRandy makeout session.

billymtx:You guys have been together, in one form or another, since 2002 and have undoubtedly played with countless great bands, which bands made you cream your pants when you played with them? Any really crazy stories?

RR: All of the Insub fests were the highlights for us but aside from that, I'd have to say the first shows with Groovie Ghoulies, Even In Blackouts, Teen Idols, and Mr T Experience were all incredible shows. I don't think I have enough room in this interview to tell all of crazy stories that went on at those shows. The last night at my club, we played with Pink Spiders and the Ergs on a Monday, and the place was packed. None of the bands were popular yet and the kids went nuts for every band. It was a great way for the club to end and the Ergs even said it was the best show they'd ever had up to that point. I'll save the good stuff for a possible blog series or something.

billymtx:Read Hard, real or something Rally did to fuck with everyone on the bored? Would you ever consider working with Read Hard musically?

RR: I'm not sure I'm familiar with what you speak of but both are pretty funny people. Musically? I might have to stick with musicians from Austin for a while. The long distance thing isn't in the cards right now.

billymtx:So, this year's fest is the last show for you guys, are you happy that your final show will be at an event that celebrates the poppier side of punk?

RR: I don't believe in breaking up or calling it quits because bands almost always get back together for a show, tour, or album. I'm not ruling that out but I'm also not ruling out the idea that this might be the last show due to how far we live apart now and side projects. So call us a semi active band I guess. But to answer the question, playing our last show at a pop punk festival in Baltimore is not too shabby of a way to go out.

billymtx:Do any of you guys have plans to continue playing music after this last show?

RR: Neeta already has a new project, Sister Sniffle, and will be



releasing an album soon. Mike is also currently involved with a few bands including Recognition, Nekronomokids, and Model Citizen. Wyatt is also in Loblaws and starting a band with Mandy from Karmella's Game. I have plans to start writing new songs and start a new band in Austin.

billymtx:Years ago I drove a young couple home after going to a movie and they proceeded to get it on in my backseat. Any "Backseat" stories of your own? NOOD PICS or it didn't happen!

RR: The first car I ever had was purchased with the sole purpose of having a big backseat. Money well spent. There weren't digital cameras back then and it would be kind of hard to have gotten those types of photos developed.

billymtx:So, do you fear "The Flood"?

RR: You'll never know when the flood is coming but we aren't supposed to worry about the flood because he was just kidding. So Yes, I fear the flood.

billymtx:Who Should fear "The Flood" the most?

RR: This would an a good time for the Ben Weasel option.

billymtx:final question, wanna get crab cakes with me after the show?

RR: Bet your sweet little ass I want some crab cakes.

BANNER PILOT

Interview by Danny White

Welcome back to Insubordination Fest, we missed you guys last year. What do you have in store for everyone this year?

Nate: We're glad to be back! This year we'll have some music in store for everyone (so unique of us!), possibly including a few cover songs. So even if you think we're terrible, stop by our set and you might hear us playing the songs of a band you like

What bands are you most looking forward to seeing at this year's fest?

Nate: I'm actually kind of stoked to check out new bands, and there's a bunch this year I've never heard before.

I noticed that between your excellent Ep Pass Your Poison and Resignation Day that the band became a member smaller. What happened here?

Nate: Mike, the original guitar player, went back to school and wasn't really into the band anymore. No big deal; we're all still friends and stuff. I ended up playing 2nd guitar on the album, and now we have a new guy named Corey.

The first pressing of Resignation Day sold out quickly on vinyl, are there any plans to release Pass Your Poison on wax?

Nate: Yep! In fact, it'll probably be out in time for Insub. So, person reading this, go outside to the merch tables right now and start randomly yelling at people and you can probably find a copy.

What was with all the color variants on Resignation Day? Are you trying to give completists a heart attack?

Nate: Yeah, pretty much.

You just signed to Fat Wreck Chords, something that surprised a lot of us following the band. How did Fat Mike come to hear your band and sign you up?

Nate: Fat was definitely our top choice for a label so we asked them if they'd have any interest in checking out some demos of the album. They did, and they liked them, and that was that. Everyone there is super rad and easy to work with so far

When will we see your Fat debut released?

Nate: This fall-- probably September, maybe October

You're about to embark on a tour, what cities are you most looking forward to playing and why?

Nate: On this tour, probably Cincinnati. We played our worst show ever there -- Mike forgot how to play guitar on stage or something and the rest of us drunkenly played Misfits and Lillingtons covers, poorly. Shit, we played the song "All" by the Descendents and fucked it up. So, this is our chance to redeem ourselves by playing I Turned Into a Martian correctly.

What is your favorite road food on tour?

Nate: Well, I'm vegetarian so seeing a Subway after eating gas station cashews and what not is always a treat.

Minneapolis seems to be a fantastic place for punk rock these days. What makes it so special?

Nate: I think maybe it's because we're all holed up for half the year due to the absurd winter and spend that time writing and working on songs. But then again we have a lot of terrible bands so my theory doesn't make much sense. So I guess my answer is: I have no idea, but thanks!

What odd factoid would you like our readers to know about Banner Pilot that they might not know going into the fest this year?

Nate: The four members of Banner Pilot are, put together, smaller than the state of Rhode Island.



BE MY DOPPELGANGER

Interview by Gerry Hubley

Ger: Bradley Anxiety of Be My Doppelganger, what's up?

Bradley: Not a lot, sitting by a window smoking to prevent people in the house from coughing and further moving swine flu around the great city of Henderson, Kentucky.

Ger: You are in Kentucky on tour, yes?

Bradley: Well, not currently on tour. I'm the one member of the band that lives in Kentucky. My town is a sister city to Evansville, Indiana where the other Doppeldudes live. We won't leave for tour until after recording for our new album in Chicago.

Ger: Oh ok cool. So is the pig flu rampant in Henderson?

Bradley: Not yet I don't think. But give it time. Kentucky can get pretty dirty.

Ger: I'm watching a lot of CNN, I'm wondering if any of us will be alive when Insub finally comes around.

Bradley: I'm hoping we will be zombies by then. Pop-punk bands write about zombies sometimes, so it's gotta be cool, right?

Ger: I think so. So being an ignorant Canadian, I had no idea Henderson and Evansville were sister cities how's the punk rock scene in that region in 2009?

Bradley: Not that great. There's really nothing in Henderson besides a couple high school bands. Evansville has somewhat of a scene, but doesn't cater well to punk rock at all. Besides us, it's pretty much the Dead Livers and Funhogs, which are both great pop-punk bands and real good friends of ours. The scene is hardcore, metal and indie rock.

Ger: And Evansville is also the scenic home of hit 90's sitcom Roseanne!

Bradley: Fuck yeah! We've got a few claims to fame around here, the exterior shot of Roseanne Conner's home being one of them. I don't think I've actually ever seen that house though. My uncle also dated the mother of Jack Nicholson's illegitimate children before I was born. She's from this area. Emmanuel Lewis also came to town to sell car wash products, I was hoping him and I would fly away together on balloons before George and Mam had a clue we were gone.

Ger: It's really amazing how much you can learn about someone's city by lazily scanning Wikipedia 10 minutes before interviewing them.... You guys also have a riverboat casino! What's the most you've ever lost there?

Bradley: Well, I got the fever for a while when I first started going to the boat. I showed up with ten bucks and won 150 on the slots. I lost all of that in about 10 minutes. I also made the dumb mistake of bringing in my debit card and spent my entire pay check trying to get that money back.... But in a way, you never really lose. Casino Aztar supplies all the free coca-cola you could ever dream of, and it's one of the last places you can smoke inside of.

Ger: So what you lose in life essentials like rent money you gain in cola products and freedom.

Bradley: Well, I don't pay rent because I still live at home. That money that I lost would have probably went to more coca-cola and probably a Steinways record.

Ger: It's the American dream at work.

Bradley: Grath would be proud.

Ger: Throw in a hamburger and you're set. So you guys have a few 7 inches and your 1st full length came out in '06. Are you working on something else?

Bradley: Oh yeah! We have a 12" EP coming out on Insubordination, which should be out in time for our tour in June. If not, it will definitely be by the time we play Insub. We're also gearing up to record a new album at Atlas in Chicago with help from Adam from the Copyrights. He's been a real sweetheart to us.

Ger: Awesome! So what can BMD fans expect from the new releases?

Bradley: Well, Adam Alive told us that our EP "Get Alive" sounds very 90's. I guess I can kind of see that. We let Adam be one of the first ones to hear anything from it because we really respect that dude, and he also latches on to us because he thinks we might make some money.

Ger: Hahahaahahahahahahahaha

Bradley: The new album is definitely just a mixture of everything else we've ever done. Some pop-punk, rock n' roll, and good, good times.

Ger: Yeah, I was gonna say, your sound kinda jumps all over the place at times. Definite pop punk and power pop influences, but then there is like, some undeniable riff rock and even slight metal things going on.

Bradley: It's expected, and I knew it was going to be that way from the start. We each have a ton of different influences.

Ger: So did you guys get into punk rock in your teens?

Bradley: I can say that's probably a safe assumption. We had all been in different types of punk rock bands since we were in middle school. Real bad names, but punk rock bands nonetheless.

Ger: Lay some of the names on us

Bradley: The Kittens, The Ohio River Rats, Run Kid Run, Silent Film Stars...I'm sure you can find some evidence of these gems on the interwebs. But don't like, give people the links to 'em at the end of this interview. We'll get laughed at even more. And probably break up. Thanks Ger! You've ruined us!

Ger: Everything I touch turns to pure shit. Case in point: The Hextalls

Bradley: Oh are they done now too?

Ger: No, they turned into a Billy Talent cover band.

Bradley: You also said you were gonna do some interviews for that zine i was gonna do. Look what happened... There's no zine. I consider that your fault. Me losing at the boat was probably your fault too!

Ger: Fuck

Bradley: I'm just jacobin'. I'm having fun!

Ger: So who are you looking forward to seeing at the fest this year?

Bradley: Geez, so many! I'm still not sure how the line-ups are working yet. I'm really hoping we aren't playing during like, a mega amazing band I wanna see real bad! The Unlovables for sure! They pretty much got me back into the pop-punk scene. I really love them. The Steinways, uhm... The Copyrights for fucking sure. Oh and fuck, Dead Milkmen! If they play the secret of life, I swear I'll cry.

Ger: Settle an argument - whose version of Dean's Dream is better: Milkmen or Bottlerocket?

Bradley: I'm a fan of Teenage Bottlerocket, but does anybody play Milkmen better than THE Milkmen? Yeah, I don't think so. Oh yeah, make sure you highlight that comma so it doesn't sound like I said "Oh, and fuck The Dead Milkmen!"

Ger: That's how I'm going to fuck you with this one. They're gonna think you hate them.

Bradley: Dude, I've played with The Low Budgets twice. Me and Joe Jack are like this (I'm making finger gestures here).

Ger: Not anymore. That's gonna be the whole interview, "Ger: Hey man, how's it going? Bradley: Fuck the Dead Milkmen." End of interview.

Bradley: I'll get ahold of this interview before it goes to press and put a k at the end of your name so it looks like "jerk", and the hextalls will be like, "Yeah, he was a jerk."

Ger: Fuck, I'm ruined. If you had to choose between eating crab cakes at the pier and watching The Steinways, what would win?



Bradley: Didn't they break up already? I'm sure Garth would leave their set to come eat crab cakes with me. I mean, last year he gave me his mom's phone number. I guess he doesn't have a cell phone. What a wimp. There's a contact in my phone that still says "Garth's Mom".

Ger: I'm leaving that "Garth" typo in. now YOU'RE fucking ruined!

Bradley: I call him Garth anyway. Our drummer could never say his name right, so Garth stuck. And we're not ruined! Larry Livermore thinks we're the Dopamines. They're getting big right?

Ger: I heard the Jons were engaged, I wish them all the best

Bradley: To each other?

Ger: Yeah.

Bradley: Gayz.

Ger: Totes gayz.

Bradley: Well, now the music fits their orientation.

Ger: Any last words to the fest goers now that we've successfully bashed The Dopamines?

Bradley: Yeah! We definitely want to thank Adam Alive and Chris Imperfekt. Both of those dudes have been nothing but awesome to us. Putting out our shit and letting us play this fest means the world to us.

Ger: And who at the fest should watch their fucking back(s)?

Bradley: Dave Nobody. He may be tall but he fucking blows at shooting hoops. And he smells like root beer.

BORIS THE SPRINKLER

Interview by Devin Hextall

First off, thank you Mr. Norb, for taking the time to be interviewed for Insubfest Zine. It is a total big time xgames boner to have you answer a few questions for us.

I'll start off with the obvious stuff, like for instance, Boris the Sprinkler playing their first show (in god knows how many years) at the 2009 insubordination festival! Whooo! Let's fire up the jets!

1) Who is Boris The Sprinkler?

BORIS THE SPRINKLER is a bunch of aging rock nerds from the northwoods of Wisconsin. Boris was Rev. Nørb, Paul #1, Erik #1 and Ronny Jonny Kispert, except when it was Rev. Nørb, Paul #1, Eric #2 and Paul #2. Of course, it wasn't always Rev. Nørb, Paul #1, Eric #2 and Paul #2 - it was sometimes Rev. Nørb, Paul #1, Paul #2 and Ric Six. Of course, when it wasn't busy being Rev. Nørb, Paul #1, Paul #2 and Ric Six, it was busy being Rev. Nørb, Paul #1, Paul #2 and Tim Double Zero, and he who is not busy born is busy dying, but, either way, after it was that it was Rev. Nørb, Paul #1, Erik #1 and Ronny Jonny Kispert again, but then it was Rev. Nørb, Erik #1, Ronny Jonny Kispert and LP, but for the show it's going to be Rev. Nørb, Paul #1, Paul #2 and Ric Six, which is the "Mega Anal" / "Little Yellow Box" / "113th Man" / "Sheena's Got a Microwave" / "(She Digs My) New Wave Records" lineup. And don't ask about Flip; he was only in the band for two shows and we don't want to talk about it.

2) Will this years lineup for the fest include paul#1 or at least some other guy wearing a hockey mask?

Paulie is too pretty to keep his chiseled features behind that hockey mask any more, but, yes, of course he will be in the band for I-Sub F. Come to think of it, that was MY hockey mask anyway, and that was only in like one photo, taken in 1992 i think, so who knows where the hell that damn thing is nowadays?! In other Paul #1 and hockey related news, i heard that if you watch the Hanson Brothers DVD where they are playing in London, you can see Paul coming out on stage to fix something or another 'cause we opened for them on that show. Zany!

3) What are the odds (in degrees celcius) that the fest will somehow lead to new Boris The Sprinkler tours and/or albums?

I'd say about zero degrees Celsius. Wait, that's like 32 degrees Fahrenheit - that's actually kind of warm in Wisconsin. I'd say it's more like zero degrees Kelvin, or whatever that other temperate scale is that starts at the same spot as Kelvin, but has the Fahrenheit-sized degrees. No one ((at least in this lineup)) lives in the same city any more; no one has much interest in spending the summer in a van. Boris were a band for over a decade; after a certain number of years, playing shows just becomes kinda redundant and...well...boring. Pretty soon it's just like bowling night or something - some dumb thing you do with your friends as an excuse to get out of the house and have a few beers together. Boris were a pretty cool band, in our own moronic way, and i don't think our shows should descend into bowling-night-ism, so the hell with it. Of course, that said, 1) I really can't say that i'm happy that "GAY!" was our grand finale; most bands' sixth albums are better than their fifth albums ((the Ramones

"Pleasant Dreams" vs. "End of the Century," Cheap Trick's "One on One" vs. "All Shook Up," and the Replacements "Pleased to Meet Me" vs. "Tim" being a few critical examples, although "Tim" is pretty good i guess)), so, in my heart of hearts, i wouldn't mind putting out one last studio album in order to avenge "GAY!", although, to its credit, there are a few songs on "GAY!" that i like quite a bit, and i think sound really together ((probably because that was the only album we recorded to click-track, but that's a whole 'nother story)). As far as touring goes, the one thing Boris always wanted to do that we never did was to tour Japan ((although, now that i think about it, we never played in the Northwest, either)). So, in a nutshell, if someone has a plan that involves us recording a sixth studio album and going to Japan, we're interested. If someone has a plan that involves us driving around the country in a van to play shows in cities we've played in ten years ago, to crowds that are a tenth of the size as they used to be, we are not.

4) What would you say to a small child in a fall out boy tshirt who comes up to you at the fest and holds up a text on his phone that says, "Which boris the sprinkler r3cord is the sick3st aids b4con MTN DEW xgames"?

I'd say "Fallout Boy? I think they opened for us once. Wait, maybe that was Diesel Boy. Well, in the final analysis, who the fuck cares? In any event, keep on texting. Chicks dig that shit, probably because it's so needlessly time-consuming and pointless that it bespeaks well upon your potential aptitude for absorbing future spousal abuse. Also, COLOR IS YOUR FRIEND, and in another year it's gonna be 2010, which is, i guess, a whole 'nother decade, and this fucking horror called the 00's will be OVER and DONE WITH and every aesthetic beachhead you think is permanently established will be overturned for keeps, and the kids of the twenty-teens decade are gonna make you and your bullshit drab/colorless 2000 A.D. aesthetic look as dumb as the shit Olivia Newton-John wore in that movie 'Xanadu,' although there was a Peavey T-40 briefly visible in that movie and i own a bass like that. But, that said, do you have any SweeTarts?"

5) What was the inspiration behind "I wanna be a male model"?

I dunno, you'd have to ask John O'Neill of the Undertones about that one. Actually, i saw the Undertones a few years ago and i had them autograph a few copies of our "Male Model" single...they were really tickled that somebody covered it!

6) How much is your antlered geek helmet worth to you?

I'll see you one stinky Wolverine costume and raise you two spatulas, a "UFO" sign, and a bass thermometer.

Alright enough of the the jibberjabber, its time to drop our pants in the grass. Here goes:

7) Most people consider you to be the american knockoff version of canada's nardwuar the human serviette. Three questions:

a)what do you have to say about this?

I'm a knockoff of Nardwuar??? Dude, i'm older than him, wouldn't that make him a knockoff of me? Further, 1) Nardwuar does lengthy, in-depth interviews with celebrities, with microphones, and tape recorders, and video cameras and shit, bringing up a plethora of well-researched factoids and enjoying the squirmage of the human condition. I just like to

walk up to famous people, ask them one question, leave, and call it an "interview." 2) I didn't have to change my name in order to have a goofy punk name ((being that my name is, in fact, "Norbert" and i am, in fact, a reverend)); 3) Nardwuar's on the radio, and i haven't been on the radio since the men with the guns and walkie-talkies escorted me from the WGBW control room in 1989 (<http://www.nytimes.com/1989/07/09/style/campus-life-wisconsin-a-radio-station-is-transferred-despite-protests.html?partne r=rssnyt&emc=rss>)). Also, i disdain the tocque during baseball cap season.

b) have you been around nardwuar when he takes his shirt off?

Nein nein, schweinhund! He is certainly my superior at the manly art of rollerskating, however.

and c) if you were put in a steel cage to face nardwuar in a "no weapons death battle xgames mountain dew extreme" match, what techniques would you use to destroy him (for the record, the cage would be blue steel one like the one used in wrestlemania for hulkster and King kong bundy)?

1) Tocque rake; 2) Verbiage slam; 3) Bell-bottom grab takedown; 4) Mike Reno references.

8) You are hunting for a moose in the middle of desolate northern ontario and its so cold that you can barely feel your fingers. the only weapons you have are pitchfork and a potatogun. what do you do?

I would poke Larry Livermore in the ass with the pitchfork until, at my behest, he left our camouflaged moose stand, and planted a big, wet kiss on the moose. While the moose was still dazed from the heady musk of Larry's affections, i would clamber up a stout birch tree, positioning myself above the moose's staunch neck and shoulders area, and, upon a predetermined signal, i would drop from the skies, violently raking and jabbing at the moose's quasi-exposed jugular with the pitchfork whilst yelling "AY YI YI YI YI YI YI YI YI!!!" at the top of my lungs until the fearsome beast expired. Oh, wait, a potato GUN? I thought you said a Potato MAN. Rev. Nørb regrets the error.

9) Who would you rather, Kim Shattuck 1994 or Kim Shattuck 2009 wearing a Batman costume?

If you can get me Kim Shattuck circa her White Flag era wearing a ROBIN costume, i'll put you on my Christmas card list forever. *I* get to wear the Batman costume; ALL the ladies know that.

10) Better song to make love to, Tag Team's "Whoomp there it is" or Van Halen's "Hot for teacher"?

Given no other options, i guess i'd have to say "Hot for Teacher" just because i don't think they play that one during Packer games. However, again, all the ladies know that the first 20/20 album is my makeout music of choice, so this whole discussion is painfully academic...

11) Have you ever used Pepsi Max on cereal as a milk substitute?

Sir, i'm from WISCONSIN. That's like asking me if i've ever used SPAM® as a Kraft Singles substitute on a grilled cheese. I have, on occasion, attempted to use Pepsi Max™ as a BLOOD substitute, but that's not what you asked me.

12) If they made a Ramones cereal, what would the cereal be shaped like?

Pink Mosrites! Orange baseball bats! Yellow logos! Green pinheads! Later recipes will include blue circles bearing the text "Specially repackaged to include the hit single 'Sheena is a Punk Rocker'."

13) Medicine is made by little elves with big boners, true or false?

Yes, but the boners are shaped like eyedroppers. How much else do you know about my business operations?

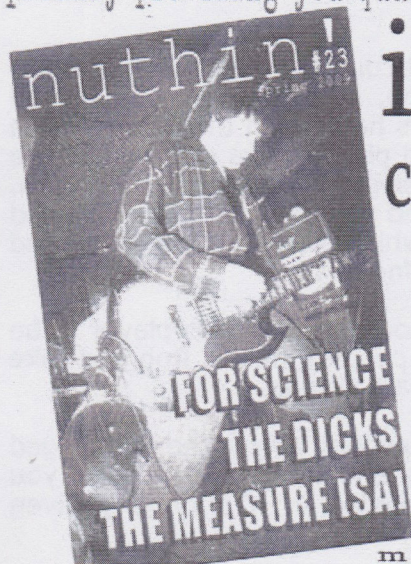
14) I think that's pretty much everything that the world wanted me to ask, Mr. Norb. thanks again. Any final thoughts, shout outs, or questions I missed?

I apologize for our last show at the Fireside Bowl, in 2003 or whenever. That was pretty bad.

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THE CHALLENGED

Interview by Jim Testa

If you happened to meet the three members of the Challenged on the street, you'd never guess they knew one another, let alone played in an awesome punk band together. The drummer looks like the bouncer at a biker bar, the bassist should be playing center for the Timberwolves, and the guitarist looks like a heavily-tattooed version of the stereotypically dorky kid in every teenage road-trip flick who starts off barfing in the back seat and ends up getting laid in the last reel. They've released several excellent CD's and unlike most of the picky elitist prima donnas in the NYC pop-punk clique, they'll play a show anywhere, anyplace, anytime. I personally have seen them blow audiences away at a bowling alley in Queens and a Laundromat in North Carolina. They are the real shit, and they just keep getting better all the time: Please meet Colin, Rob, and Mike, the Challenged.

Q: You're too punk to be indie but you're too indie to be pop-punk. Is there any where that The Challenged feels it fits in, as far as today's music scene?

Rob: I didn't think we were indie at all. Independent? I'd say pop punk is good. Fuck. Now I think we're indie.

Colin: "This doesn't sound <blank> enough" has luckily never been uttered in a Challenged practice. ("C'mon, just touch it" unfortunately has, but I'd rather not discuss).

Q: How long have you been together, is this the original lineup, how did you meet up, and what's the biggest mistake you've made as a band?

Rob: Technically 8 years, but I'd start counting at the EP and say 4 years. I started the band in college, and friends have played various parts. I'd say the past 3 years have been the most solid in that it's a "real" band that writes and plays shows constantly. The biggest mistake was probably the bass player we had before Colin. He just really got us off course, fucked with our heads, and fucked with a lot of other people's heads - which didn't help us as a band and was almost responsible for breaking us up.

Colin: I also learned from hearing about the last bass player to be much more subtle when fucking with people's heads. Rob and Mike have no idea about the sinister shit I am doing.

Q: This is what I call the Passover question: Why is the Challenged different from all other bands? Why should anyone go see you when there are 246 other bands playing in NYC on any given night?

Rob: I think that's the problem with New York. Most people prefer the discotheque to us. I don't think we're different than most pop punk bands at all. Where did you get this 246 from? I think you might've undershot it.

Colin: At any given moment, Rob can say something in between songs so awkward that it will make everyone uncomfortable and so quiet you hear a pin drop. It's a real sight to be seen. He's constantly trying to top himself.

Mike: Totally.

Q: Getting shows in NYC is an art in itself; you guys seem pretty good at it. What's the secret of booking your band in New York City, and what's the selling point of The Challenged when you talk to bookers?

Rob: I don't know if we're good at booking at all. I'd say that's actually a large flaw. We've gotten banned from some places - so it's only gonna get harder to book shows. We used to play a lot of fun shows at the Knitting Factory because years ago we dropped off our record and KF would call us to do last minute shows, so in return for the last minute bails, we'd get some good shows.

Colin: The trick is to say yes to everything. We're almost always up for playing, so even if it might turn out to be the dance club from the opening scene of Blade, we'll probably show up. We once filled in for a band with an hour's notice, and ended up being the only band that showed up. Also, we were the only people that showed up. There's something liberating about playing to an empty room in the very literal sense.

Q: The trio is my favorite configuration for a rock band. Mike Watt has a whole sermon on the dynamics of a three piece band, but could you talk about why you like it and why you're resisted the temptation to add a second guitar or keyboard?

Rob: I've always played in trios. I've never even really considered any other configuration in my head. When you write a song...I always figure those 3 are the necessities. I think it makes everyone focus more on their instrument and there's more room on stage (Mike and Colin are both like 6'4"). Plus sometimes I'll see a band with 2 guitars and they just end up competing with another. It can also drown out a good bass player as well as the kick drum. I also like the way a lead sits very clear over just bass and drums.

Colin: There's something very utilitarian about a three-piece that I like. One of the most influential bands for me, personally, was a band from Myrtle Beach called The Frownies, and I think we are somewhat similar to their dynamic. Three dudes, three different styles, trying to complement each other. We're just not as good as The Frownies. Or Jawbreaker. Or TLC.

Mike: For real.

Q: What's your current status as far as a record label and a new release?

Rob: We're working on a new full length. We're gonna send demos to see if a label wants to put it out.

Colin: I finally got a record player, so I would like to put out some vinyl now, please.

Q: You went to the Wilmington Exchange Festival (aka W.E. Fest,) which is primarily an indie-rock fest, last year; you're going to Insub Fest this year. Which presents the bigger challenge in terms of playing to a new audience, and did your experience last year affect you in any way as far as your approach to touring/festivals etc.?

Rob: Yeah, WE fest was awesome. I think in terms of touring or festivals...sometimes you have to drive a long time to play a kick ass show. Insub is cool in terms of it being really narrowed down to pop punk. I feel like any show we play is a new audience 'cause we don't really have a lot of people come to see us. It'll just be cool to play to people that have the same exact musical tastes as us and to see a bunch of great bands.

Colin: WE Fest was fun, but with it being so decentralized coupled with the fact that we could only stay for our night, I feel like we missed out on a lot of stuff. I went to my first Insub Fest last year and I learned very quickly that no, Larry "Mr. Fest" Livermore was not exaggerating, it IS that awesome. Last year, as the night progressed, you felt like you had a runner's high, but in lieu of top physical conditioning and a healthy cardiovascular system working in harmony, it was a perfect storm of Natty Boh, great bands, and awesome people that had you floating. I am really happy to be lucky enough to play this year.

Mike: Hahaha, yeah.

Q: How can people find you on the Internet and what shit do you have for sale?

Rob: We're at www.TheChallenged.com and we've got all sorts of stuff for sale - t-shirts, CDs, stickers, and home gardening equipment. We're on the MySpace too at myspace.com/thechallenged2.

Colin: We plan to have commercial gardening equipment by Q4 2009.

Charlie Brown Gets A Valentine

Interview by Danny White

Danny: Charlie Brown Gets A Valentine has two things going for it, amazing music and sex appeal (Jon, Lucas and Costas are all adorable fellows). We know there's nothing you can do about the latter, but how did you guys come up with so many great tunes?

Jon: It's been awhile since the three of us have written a song together, in fact, at this point, we haven't played together since the last time we played Insub Fest in 2006.

Danny: Right, this is the second Charlie Brown reunion for Insub Fest. What's keeping the band from doing more than just the occasional show?

Jon: Life, plain and simple. Costas has been in India for the past couple years, while Lucas and I finished grad school. We've all moved numerous times, gotten married, started careers, I had a kid... but I never felt like we broke up. We just moved on to other things. Whenever it makes sense for us to play together, we do. We're still friends and still enjoy it. At the very least, it's a great excuse to hangout.

Danny: What treats does the band have in store for us this year? The 2006 show was pretty damn perfect.

Jon: Thanks, it felt really good. Um..., if you liked 2006, you'll like 2009. I think we know what people want to hear and what songs require little or no practice. If a song meets both criteria, it's in the set. We pretty much stick to songs from *Dismissed*, with the exception of "Disco v. Punk".

Danny: Looking back at the band, what do you think were some high and low points in CBGaV?

Jon: Well, we got to play with some amazing bands like At the Drive In, The Get Up Kids, Atom and His Package, The Honor System, but the high point for me has to be the last two shows we've played. Hard to believe, but in the past five years, we've only played two shows... but they've been some of the best experiences I've had playing in any band.

The first show was the Ergs/Unloables' dual record release show in the summer of 2004. It was basically a Whoa Oh Records showcase and it was the first time we played to a packed club that knew our music. It was getting harder and harder to get together to play, I was living in Connecticut, but after that show, I realized it was worth the effort. The second show was Insub Fest 2006. Without a doubt, the best show I have ever played. A room full of people going crazy and singing along to every song... that's the whole reason anyone starts a band in the first place. To actually achieve that is pretty incredible.

Danny: What do we have to do to get *Dismissed* on vinyl already?

Jon: I know, right! I would love for that to happen. There has been talk, but nothing more than that. If anyone is interested, get in touch!

Danny: What's happening in the near future for the guys in the band? Is Lucas going to get his own tv court show? Is Costas going to save the world?

Jon: We may write a couple new songs this summer. I'd really like to do that, but we'll have to wait and see.

Danny: If the members of CBGaV were Saturday morning cartoon characters who fought crime and went on zany adventures, what kind of awesome animal sidekick would accompany the band on its many quests? And who would get stuck driving the van on all the trips to haunted amusement parks and creepy mansions?

Jon: Lucas would probably do most of the driving, since he is the current van owner. Animal sidekick... would most likely be some large bearded man whose job it is to document the experience and limit his own personal consumption of alcohol so we always have a designated driver.

Danny: Insubordination Fest has grown leaps and bounds since the first one that you've played. What do you foresee in the years to come for the fest?

Jon: I don't know, but I can only hope it continues to include my stupid bands.



PLUG: Charlie Brown Gets a Valentine's *Dismissed* is still digitally available on iTunes and Emusic from Whoa Oh Records.

DEAD MECHANICAL

Interview by Jim Testa

Dead Mechanical is a three piece from Baltimore that plays choppy, frenetic, catchy punk-rock that incorporates innovative time signatures, Lucas (ex-Charlie Brown Gets A Valentine) Carscadden's gravelly vocals and thrashy guitar, Matt Dorsey's sweeter melodic vocals and thrashy drums, and Dan Bress' thrashy bass and balletic stage moves.

Note: Dead Mechanical is not a thrash band.

Q: Name the first three animals, vegetables, or minerals that would come to mind on hearing Dead Mechanical for the first time?

Dan: Snakes, because we have the tenacity of a snake bite.

Lucas: I've always thought our sound had a distinct air of rhubarb.

Matt: As for a mineral, I'd have to say hornblende. I mean, it's called hornblende, which is obviously the best-named of the common minerals. Also, the word is derived from the German words that translate to "to blind" and "to dazzle." I like to think we, as a band, do both.

Q: How annoying are the constant Jawbreaker comparisons?

Dan: I don't mind being compared to bands that I like. I suppose I take it as a compliment.

Lucas: Yeah, it would be pretty silly to be annoyed by it. It's not like it's totally off base or anything.

Matt: Seriously, there are plenty worse things we could get compared to, and it's not like we don't all listen to Jawbreaker. Plus, it makes it really easy to heckle us at shows. I mean, if we were primarily influenced by important German krautrock band Can, for instance, you would have a hard heckling us. I don't think anyone would be able to pull out "Hey, dorks, play Deadlock (Titelmusik)!" in the heat of the moment.

Q: If Charlie Brown got a valentine, what did Dead Mechanical get?

Dan: A baconater and some spree.

Lucas: Some Kombucha and Vegan Brownies.

Q: This is what I call the Passover question: Why is Dead Mechanical different from all other bands? Why should anyone go see you when there are 246 other bands playing at Insub Fest?

Dan: We're the only band that sounds like Jawbreaker? I've been told that people like to watch me frolic to and fro.

Lucas: I only like to watch Dan frolic to. When he goes fro, he loses me.

Matt: To see if you can spot where in the set Lucas becomes winded and fakes having to tune his guitar so he can catch his breath. Maybe even take bets on it?

Q: Most people only know Baltimore as the sleazy crime-ridden ghetto they see on *The Wire*. What's wrong with that perception, if anything; and why do you stay there?

Dan: Baltimore has several perks. Weather-wise, you get hot summers, and usually get some snow in the winter. Location-wise, we're not far from DC, Philly, NYC, Richmond or Boston. We have international airports near us which makes travel easier/cheaper. Housing and cost of living is pretty affordable. There are jobs. It's not a big city and doesn't really have much of the pretentious bullshit that comes along with that. Most of the people are honest and sincere. People don't move to Baltimore for the same reasons they would move to, say, New York or LA, where you have a ton of people, but not many are really "from" there.

Matt: The Baltimore seen in the *Wire* is actually a really accurate portrayal of huge swaths of the city, but, then again, not all of the city is like that. Of course, the issue of drugs affects everything around here, from education to housing to employment to crime to public health to government, and who knows what else. There are a lot of great things about Baltimore, though; it may be small compared to New York, but it takes years to really find out all there is to know about and do here. I'm still finding out about cool things, and I've lived in and around Baltimore practically my entire life. It's home. My family's here. All things considered, it's where I want to be.

Q: The trio is my favorite configuration for a rock band. Mike Watt has a whole sermon on the dynamics of a three piece band, but could you talk about why you like it and why you're resisted the temptation to add a second guitar or keyboard?

Dan: I personally like having fewer cooks in the kitchen. We have enough trouble getting ideas past the other two members of the band, If we had someone else, it would be even harder. Plus with an odd number, there's always a majority party.

Lucas: I think when I have to write guitar parts for a two guitar band, like in the Festivals, I tend toward more standard types of chords and riffs and stuff. I like not really having to blend in with another guitar, cause it lets you play weirder and more interesting things sometimes.

Matt: Logistically, it's just so much easier to function as a trio -- everything from practicing, recording, touring, playing shows, and making decisions is easier just by virtue of the fact that there are three, instead of four, members. Live, I've always been fascinated by trios -- like, "How can just three people make all that noise?" To be a great trio, every person has to be locked in together and doing something full and interesting with his or her instrument. Hopefully we sorta do that.

I've definitely thought about the prospect of adding a 4th member, but it seems like the person we would add would have to fit so perfectly into the band in terms of both personality and musical ability and style that we just wouldn't come across that person... or if we did, it'd be someone who lived far away. I don't know. We'll probably stay the way we are.



Q: What's your current status as far as a record label and a new release?

Dan: We just recorded two songs that will be the single for the next album. We just got the final masters for the single today, and should have that out early summer. We almost have all the songs for the album done. We still need to find a label that will help us get it out.

Q: How has having Bress in the band changed Dead Mechanical? Other than the fact that you can't eat at Kentucky Fried Chicken on tour? (Bress is vegan.)

Dan: I actually never saw the band before I joined, so I can't really comment. Lucas still eats plenty of Arby's and KFC on tour. Bress Baby!

Lucas: I feel like I get made fun of a lot more.

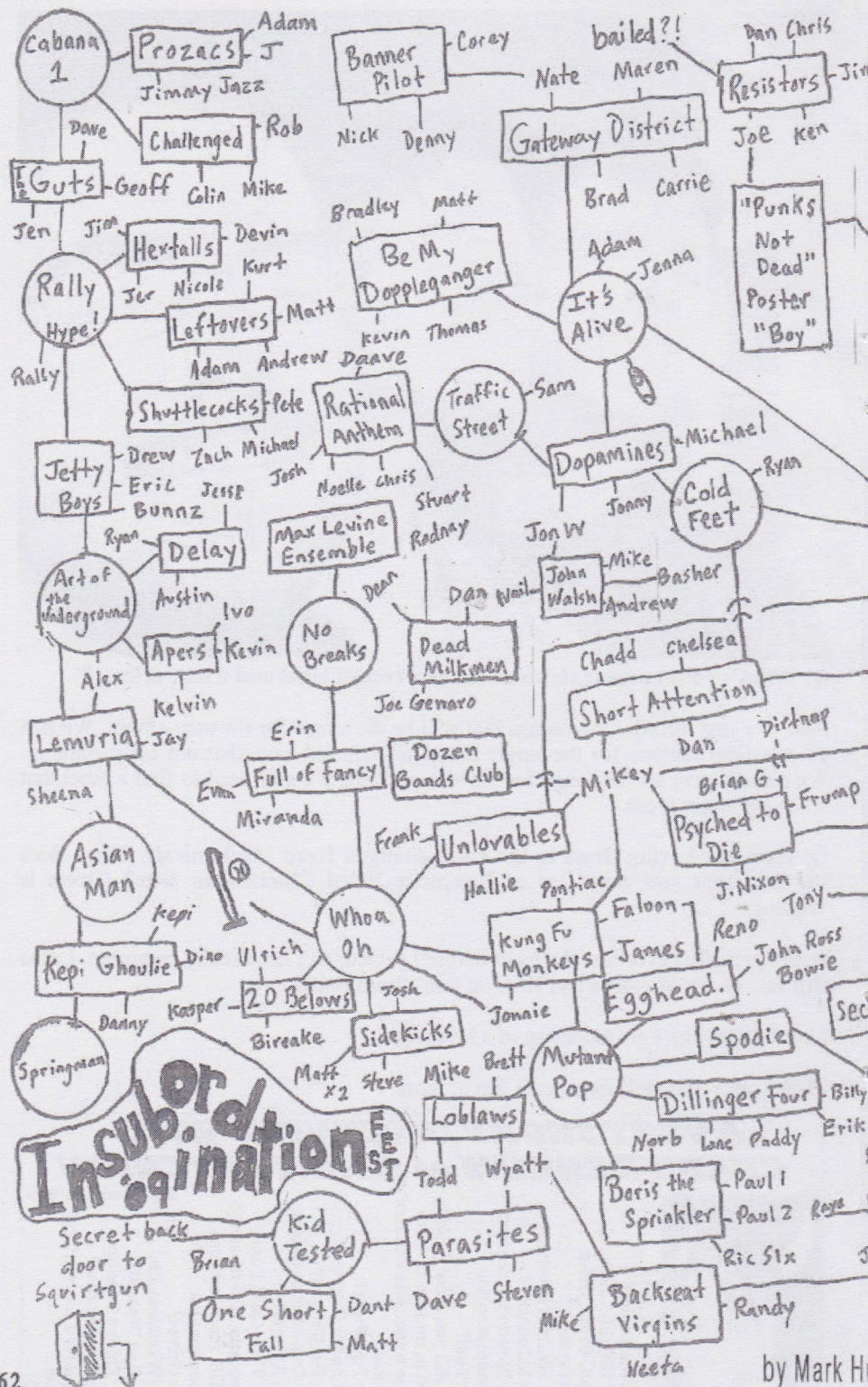
Matt: Lucas definitely gets made fun of more.

A VERY SHORT INTERVIEW WITH CHADD DERKINS of SHORT ATTENTION

By Jim Testa



Q: Members?
A: Chadd, Chelsea, Dan, Grath, Mike
Q: Style?
A: WarioWare-core
Q: Influences?
A: Boredom, laziness, procrastination
Q: Fest?
A: All you have to do to get in for free is write like 6 seconds worth of music
Q: Pop-Punk?
A: Better than ever
Q: Pet peeves?
A: One-minute marks
Q: Albums?
A: 7" on Cold Feet Records, self-released
Q: CDR, more to come soon maybe?
Q: Grivet?
A: Worthless life
Q: Ben Weasel?
A: Enjoys boating
Q: Future plans?
A: Leave 'em wanting less



Holy shit! It's the return of:

Lame's Games



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Pop punk
 Baltimore, MD
 Doors
 Firecrackers
 Insubordination Records
 Rational Anthem
 Knock Knock Records
 GPC Guitars
 Pabst Blue Ribbon beer
 Kid Tested Records
 Asian Man Records
 Razorcake
 Alternative Tentacles
 Rally Records
 Sonic Iguana
 June 25, 2009
 June 26, 2009
 June 27, 2009
 CBGAV
 Pop Punk
 Ottobar
 2549 N. Howard Street
 Club Sonar
 407 E. Saratoga Street

Band lineup subject to change without notice

Deep Sleep
 Sick Sick Birds
 Stop talking about LastFM baseball
 LastFM baseball is not real baseball
 LastFM baseball. Really?!?!? Why?!
 Who would drive a van into a fireball?
 Is the van eating it's own tires?

My friend was telling me
 About people who wanted to
 Loblaws

Cut off their limbs.
 Like. A guy didn't like his leg
 So he wanted it amputated
 They had a TV show about it
 The guy spoke with another
 Guy who had the same
 Condition. Of course the
 One guy was successful so
 The told the other guy how
 To succeed. The secret?

Challenged
 Put the leg you hate on dry ice
 For a few days. Then they
 Have to cut it off!! Holy shit!!
 Right? Yeah. They told a guy
 How to get his leg amputated!
 Dude did it. Totally did it!!
 Then they had a bit about
 A girl with "alien arms"
 She couldn't control her
 Left arm or something

Delay
 Shit would just wave around
 Without her able to control it
 Crazy! Fucking Crazy!
 Max Levin Ensemble
 John Walsh
 Festipals
 I love you guys!!

Short Attention
 Teenage Bottlerocket
 Doors
 AV Club
 House Boat
 Karmella's Game
 The Unlovables
 Le Volume Etais Au Maximum
 Underground Railroad To Candyland
 Copyrights
 Pansy Division
 SUCIDIE
 Steinways
 Boris The Sprinkler
 Dead Milkmen
 One Short Fall
 Serlingtons
 Pleasure Kills
 Shuttlecocks
 Jetty Boys
 Banner Pilot
 Guts
 Secorections
 Dopamines
 Backseat Virgins
 Abducted
 20 Belows
 Be My Doppelganger
 Doors
 Hextalls
 Kung Fu Monkeys
 Gateway District
 Lemuria
 Dear Landlord
 Apers
 Cretins
 Spodie
 Egghead
 Beatnik Termites
 Methadones
 Toys That Kill
 Kepi Ghoulie
 Squirtgun
 Teen Idols
 Dillinger Four
 Prozac
 Marshmallows
 Nancy
 Adorable
 Full Of Fancy
 Resistors
 Repellents
 Proteens
 Parasites
 Arrivals
 Dead Mechanical
 Leftovers
 Psyched To Die
 Sidekicks

THE DEAD MILKMEN

interview by Mark Black

Are the Dead Milkmen back to being a full-time band?

Joseph Genaro: We're back to being a full band again. We are gonna keep the shows sparse, we wanna make sure we're having fun doing what we're doing.

What brought about the reunion?

We got asked to play the Fun Fun Fun Fest which is a festival that happens every year in Austin, Texas. And we originally declined but the guy who puts on the festival was...I don't want to say took no for an answer, but he got a lot of people we know to bug us to try and change our minds. And we eventually did change our minds and in the process of rehearsing on a regular basis we discovered we actually enjoyed what we were doing in a way just beyond that.

Did the Dead Milkmen start as a concept before it was a band?

I was a Beatles fan, I like the Beatles still. I joined the Wings Fun Club back when I was a young teenager and I just thought it was amusing; what I got from joining it. I wanted to make fun of it, it was just ridiculous. In order to make fun of it I created a persona which was Jack Talcum. Jack got the Dead Milkmen newsletter and eventually in the story that was told in the newsletters...the recipients of the newsletter were basically my neighbor. I made one copy of each newsletter on the library copy machine for like ten cents a page. I gave them to him and he passed them around on the school bus, so that was my audience. The story went that he stumbled upon this band called the Dead Milkmen and joined them, basically he took them over. And that's where the Dead Milkmen comes from.

Was it hard to find people to be a part of the Dead Milkmen that shared the same sense of humor?

It wasn't hard, we just stumbled upon them. Rodney went to school with me and what came from doing the newsletter was I started making tapes because I made tapes with my neighbor, Garth. We made these comedy skit tapes that were improvised. And that progressed to making music and it was like Monty Python not exactly, but you know how they had music too? Dr. Demento and all that. It just came natural that since I had this newsletter that was talking about the band that I might as well make tapes to go along with it. And that could sort of a real extension of that. So I made these songs, recorded them, some with Garth, and he brought them into school with him and gave them to Rodney. And I knew Rodney also...I sat at his lunch table the first day of high school and wherever you sit the first day of high school that's where you sat for the rest of high school. No assigned seats, but you self assigned them. That's how we became friends because we at the same table. I don't know if friends is the right word because I barely ever said anything. He got a copy of the tape from Garth in journalism class and he approached me, "I like this tape, it's really funny. The next time you record, can I come along and be part of the band?" Yeah, he came with all these lyrics and a banjo. That's how he became the frontman.

Was nothing off-limits with the Dead Milkmen in terms of songwriting?

We tried to do a techno song once, but it didn't work. We tried a lot of stuff. I guess we've never done a rap song. We did the dance thing so yeah I guess there's nothing.

Did the Dead Milkmen offend people?

My mom didn't like Methodist Coloring Book. We've gotten all kinds of hate mail, back when people sent letters. We don't get so much hate email. But back in day when people sent letters we did. We got some angry moms. People offended by the song Bleach Boys thinking people were going to kill themselves accidentally because they think it's cool to drink bleach. We got some Doors fans that were offended I guess for making fun of the Doors. Some people who thought we were making fun of AIDS itself...on Bitchin' Camaro recorded version. Although every version that we did of that song is improvised, including the recorded version. It just happens that version happens to be recorded.

Is the Johnny Wurster kid from Stuart, Jon Wurster from Superchunk?

Yeah, that's his name. Rodney likes to name drop sometimes. Of course it's a fictional story...He's just sort of teasing. We knew Johnny Wurster when he was a kid or a teenager, I guess he wasn't a kid. He was a friend of Dean's and lived in that neck of the woods. They did a tape project called the Drum Dorks, I guess it was a zine too, around the same time I was doing the Dead Milkmen with Rodney and Garth and such. And this fictional band the Drum Dorks was sort of like a parallel. Which is funny...We would hang out at Dead Milkmen rehearsals when we would rehearse at Dean's parents' house, where Dean lived at the time. And that's how we got to know him, he would press the record button to record the demo of the song we were working on.

How did the Smokin' Banana Peels 12" come about?

Well I guess in retrospect there were a lot of problems with that one, but we had success doing a remix of Instant Club Hit and that was a good seller. We thought we'd do something like that for the next album and I guess that was our first mistake, we were kind of repeating ourselves. What song can we remix and who can we get to remix it? The whole idea was wrong from the very beginning. But we were fans of Was Not Was figured we'd asked David Was to remix it and they were willing to do it for a price. They did and they gave the record company a lot of versions of it and the record company put every single version they got on the 12", which I thought was a little ridiculous and over the top. But we also had some extra songs from...they weren't really extra songs from Beelzebubba, they were never meant to be on the album, but they were songs from our earliest days that never made it to the Big Lizard album. They were never properly recorded actually...we wanted to preserve them, so while we were in the studio and had the studio time booked we did versions of all the songs to put them down for posterity. And they were the b-side. If it wasn't for the b-sides it wouldn't be worth the song.

How did playing at Insubordination Festival come about?

We got a number of offers after it was announced that we were playing the Fun Fun Fun Festival and we weeded through those and decided that this was one we thought we could have fun doing it as well.

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THE MENZINGERS

"HOLD ON, DODGE"

OUT IN JUNE
COBRA SKULLS
"AMERICAN
RUBICON"



PLUS A NEW FULL LENGTH
FROM THE **SIDEKICKS!**
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FALLS DOWN! MAKES STUFF!



The Pillowlights
Round 1 CD



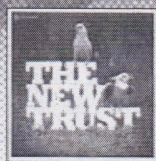
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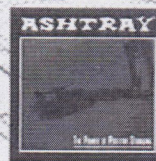
Big D & The Kids Table
Steadily Rude 2xLP



Shang-A-Lang //
Brickbats SPLIT EP



The Phenomenauts
For All Marking CD



Ashtray The Power Of
Positive Drinking CD



Hard Girls // Albert
Square SPLIT EP

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SUCIDIE

Back to DIY
 Keep your labels and your producers.
 I'm gonna do this the way I want.
 I'm sick, sick, sick, sick of this shit
 It's time to get back to DIY.
 I'm going to get back to DIY.
 It's just me and my friends, it's DIY.
 Fuck you, fuck you, I'm DIY.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 5555 5555 33335555
 8 9 2 9 CREW 5555 5555 33335555

YELLOW LIGHT IS PRETTY GOOD
 WISDOM TEETH IS FUCKING GREAT
 BUT MY FAVORITE IS THE THIRD
 ONE OR MAYBE THE LAST ONE 5555 5555 33335555

3333 22223333 3333 5555
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I'm happy when I sleep,
 I'm happy when I drink,
 I'm happy without you!!

G D BLDHT G D BLHDE G D BNTGHN G D
 OH SHIT I'VE GOT A GIRLFRIEND AND
 I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO

wake up, commute, work work work
 53535 lunch, work work work, commute
 5 45 dinner, sleep

TURN TO PAGE 27 FOR SUCIDIE SET PART II POP PUNK

DELAY

Interview by Jim Testa

Q: How long have you been together, is this the original lineup, how did you meet up, and what's the biggest mistake you've made as a band?

DELAY: Formed in 1997. This is the original line-up: Jesse, Austin, Ryan. We met in 1st grade at school. We got a singer, then we realized that was our biggest mistake, haha. Covering Lit at the 8th grade talent show probably was a mistake too.

Q: What do the three of you do when you're not being Delay. Not just school/work, but what are your other passions, the things you really look forward to doing with your time?

DELAY: Ryan: Writes and draws a lot (<http://friendsandwieners.wordpress.com>), plays in Letters to the Moon and Lose the 'Tude. He volunteers with Food Not Bombs and shelves books at the main library for 8 bucks an hour. Jesse: The only member of Delay who knows how to party. I think he works out sometimes. Throws a mean knuckleball. Delivers pizzas. Austin: Makes tapes for bands (inthepockettapes.midwestrock.org), learning to play drums, liked cooking/eating, works for an after-school program and substitute teaches.

Q: There is a long history of brothers in bands, from the Kinks to Oasis. And like the Kinks and Oasis, many of those rock siblings fight like cats and dogs. What's the relationship between Ryan and Austin, and how do you think having brothers in the band has affected the development and direction of the band over the years?

DELAY: Two peanuts in the shell, ya know? We know we need each other. I think we make each other stay focused, positive, and inspired. I know being close helps us make great music. We just feel bad for Jesse. You know...instead of one annoying kid in the band, there's two.

Q: This is what I call the Passover question: Why is Delay different from all other bands? Why should anyone go see you when there are 246 other bands playing at Insub Fest?

DELAY: Delay is real. It's three friends growing up together right in front of you, through the music and everything that goes with it. We love playing together and HAVE to do it! It's necessary to our mental stability. It is desperate and immediate energy. And it'll be fun if you watch us.

Q: You guys don't have a MySpace page. Is that a political statement about MySpace's corporate ownership, a cultural statement about the loss of intimacy that social networking online creates, or just a reflection of the fact that you guys don't like to spend your time on computers?

DELAY: All of the above. That shit is spooky. Oh, and we are sooooo punk, DIY until death shows up and we dig our own graves because we are that DIY.

Q: My little bit of experience with Columbus suggests it's a great place to be a band. Can you talk a little about the basement shows there and the people and bands who make it a great scene? What's it like in terms of 21+ clubs and "indie" bands?

DELAY: Columbus downtown/campus area is small. All the houses are close to each other. Everyone is into working together and supporting the other scenes, making it one big scene. We have a monthly flyer that lots of work goes into, to put all the DIY shows on one calendar. Then they get distributed. You want noise/HC/poppunk/hiphop/crust you name it, we got it and usually all on the same show. No one is pretentious, no one has some bullshit attitude, and if you do, someone is there to remind you to get over yourself! Legion Of Doom house has been going for over 10 years. With mainstays like that, DIY is alive and well in Cbus. Columbus rules. For the clubs, there are good bands. Lots of bands are affiliated with a rad local label called, Columbus Discount Records.

Q: The trio is my favorite configuration for a rock band. Mike Watt has a whole sermon on the dynamics of a three piece band, but could you talk about why you like it and why you're resisted the temptation to add a second guitar or keyboard?

DELAY: We don't want to throw off our chemistry, and yeah, the 3-piece is something special. It is a force of its own created by so many great three-pieces.

Q: What's your current status as far as a record label and a new release?

DELAY: New 11 song full length on the way! Plan-It-X will release the CD. Any takers for the vinyl? Pleez!?

Q: The one persistent criticism I hear about Delay is that your recordings don't capture the awesomeness of the band. Do you feel the same way or do you like the way your records (especially the two full-lengths) sound? If you were handing an unlimited budget to record at a mega-studio, would a Delay record sound any different? If you could work with anyone to produce your next record, who would it be?

DELAY: I think we all feel fine about everything we have done. Our 7 inch split with the Monikers is what we like best. It is the first time a friend (Andy Cook of Ghost Town Trio) who really knows the band recorded us and I think it shows. But a recording is a recording, a beast of its own. Everything we have done stands alone as a version of what we do. It will never be what a band is live. Some recordings just have awesome continuity and an awesome album sound. Albums where you hear one note and know instantly what album it is. I don't think we have gotten there yet, but we'd like to. I think anyone could record it. I would do it on a four track and tell everybody to get over it.

Q: How can people find you on the Internet and what shit do you have for sale?

DELAY: Our Souls for sale! www.midwestrock.org/delay and www.plan-it-x.com and www.kissofdeathrecords.com and www.bigrecordlabel.com. Wooohie baby!

THE DOPAMINES

Interview by Colin Kane

1. For the 10 people left that are unfamiliar with you guys, state your name, instrument, and favorite member of the Dopamines.

Jon L: Jonny/Vocals & Guitars/Beer

Michael: My names Michael, I hit stuff 'n' yell a lot, and my favorite member would be myself. Mostly because I never liked the Jon's

Jon W: My name is Jon Weiner and I play bass and sing in The Dopamines... I mean... My Name is Christian Stefos, I play guitar and sing in popular pop group The Tattle Tales I'm Christian Tattle Tale, pop pop pop!

2. Having been in other bands before, did you guys take a different approach this time, or did things just sort of fall in place? What is your creative process for making a song?

Jon L: Well, for myself, I approached this band with a lot of anxiety, mainly because in previous bands, it was awkward for me to present any creative input. So with the doper dappers Jon and I just got thrown into that role. it kinda worked right? Songs? have you ever seen hustle & flow?

Michael: For me things just fell into place I guess. They asked me to try out playing drums for them. I said no, naturally. But they made me anyway and took my lunch money.

Jon W: We all sort of just write songs. I mean, we kind of know how we want things to sound, kinda simple, and kinda anthemy, other than that, stuff usually just kind of works out or doesn't. We usually write the music together, and then Jon L, or maybe sometimes I will come up with lyrics/melodies. Michael just kind of sits there and works on his alcohol problem.

3. You guys have been on the road since early May, with dates with Brickfight, Banner Pilot, and a pre-Insub tour with our Canadian friends The Hextalls. How did everything go and name your favorite tour moment. (I know it is April, but this comes out the end of June, so I want it to be fresh. Make some shit up. No one will know, I will delete the stuff in parentheses, promise)

Jon L: the best moment of tour (I can't believe I'm telling this) was when

Devin (of Hextalls fame) was sleepwalking nude cause he got really drunk, and as he was stepping over me to get to the kitchen to sleepeat. I jolted up from a nightmare, and my mouth just rammed over his pee pee. it was awkward cause it knocked him out of his trance and there he was...balls deep in my mouth.

Michael: yeah there was this really weird night, I woke up to get a drink of water, and I saw J Lew Chuckeroo wailing on Devin's fleshy meat hammer... kinda hot.

Jon W: They're all really bad bands. The funny thing, we did a tour with The Hextalls out here, but they really just aren't a good band at all. They aren't really that nice of people either. Devin was constantly showing us his "fruit basket." It got kind of old after the first time. His face kind of looks like a dick and balls as it is. I guess my favorite moment of the past 2 months has been when Chris Crusher from Dateless got so drunk in Seattle he ate his own shit. He kept calling himself "king doo doo."

4. Along with the awesome self titled full length available on It's Alive Records, what else do you have available at the Insub Fest Giant Merch Table?

Jon L: you know, in every other band I've ever been in, I've always wanted to put out 7"s and it always got shot down. that being said, we should have some pretty boss T shirts.

Michael: Hopefully we get our new Split 7" with Hatebreed before the fest.

Jon W: We have our new record, "Hearts in tune" which is 50 minutes of pop gems! Besides that... We've got a new split with The Copyrights, who is the band we try sound exactly like, a 4 band comp 7" with No Idea Records presents: The Closet Fairies, a split 7" with a band from Cincinnati called till plains, and a tape with some shit on it. Oh yeah, we also have a 6 song EP 7" on Cold Feet Records. n00bs buy shit.

5. Insub Goals: Bands, Booze, Etc. List them.

Jon L: Goals? Umm...not suck like last year. Get Underground Railroad to Todd that Kill's opinion on how our TTK cover turned out. Make Jon W crowdsurf. wet my pants.

Michael: yes.

Jon W: Charlie Brown Gets a valentine are playing, that's pretty much all that matters. I'll probably just be drinking beers with Jon Moser all weekend. This year I will try not to wake up in an unfamiliar place, but that is a challenge in itself.

8=====D

EGGHEAD.

Interview by Jim Testa

Egghead may be one of the unlikeliest performers at this year's Insub Fest, since as they themselves will readily admit, they weren't all that popular a decade ago when they were actually being a band. That's not because they weren't any good - heck, I was a big fan - but because they emerged in the early 90's playing nerdy, intelligent pop-punk at a time when the NYC music scene couldn't have cared less, and experimental post-hardcore like Quicksand, Helmet, and White Zombie ruled the day. These days, Mike Faloon stays active in the punk and zine underground, John Ross Bowie enjoys a successful career as an actor in feature films and television, and, well, no one's quite sure what Johnny Reno does for a living, but they've graciously agreed to reunite for their second Insubordination Fest appearance, and dammit, we're excited! We caught up with Mike Faloon for this interview.

Q: This is a disgrace, but neither Egghead the band nor yourself have entries in Wikipedia, so we're going to have to do this the hard way: Who is in the band, when did you form, when did you break up, and why did you bother getting back together?

Roll call: Johnny Reno - guitar, vocals, John Ross Bowie - bass, vocals, Mike Faloon - drums. Egghead. Mach I launched in late '92. At the time our guitarist was Travis (Michael) Knight. He introduced me to my wife. This was a plus. He wrote songs about gun violence and land rights. This necessitated change. Enter Johnny Reno. Early '94. Egghead. Mach II. He insisted we dress as pirates. We broke up in '98. Not because of the pirate costumes. We reformed because Enoch has us tattooed on his lower leg but never saw us live.

Q: Did the response you received at Insubordination Fest two years ago surprise you? I mean, why Egghead, why not, say, a Trixie Belden revival?

Yes, quantitatively, because we were ten years removed from our first run. Qualitatively, no, because John and Reno know how to work a crowd (like the parking lot show) and at the second show (Charm City Art Space) the room was stuffed with people who knew our CD. This guy from Texas had to stand with his toes on the edge of the kick drum rim-probably closer than he wanted to be-and he sang along with every song. Ok, that was surprising.

Q: What is the current status of the band, do you have any ongoing plans for more performances or recording, and can you get me John Ross Bowie's autograph?

We've received an offer to tour Europe and we have an album's worth of unrecorded material. Just have to find the time to tackle these endeavors. And a label. Our former sugar daddy, the illustrious Timbo from Mutant Pop, has closed up shop. As for John, I just received a shipment of autographed coffee mugs.

Q: The word "egghead" was a forerunner of terms like "dork" and "nerd." Given that an entire genre of pop-punk was based on the image you created (cf Ergs, Kung Fu Monkeys,) do you feel your role in rock n roll history has been neglected?

And can you briefly describe the horrendous loneliness of being a pop-punk band in 1992 New York City?

I recognize that this may reek of denial but most of our time was awesome. We played a hundred some odd shows, released a few records, and the friends? Forget about it. We got to know the guys in the Sea Monkeys and Dirt Bike Annie and the Kung Fu Monkeys. Later the Ergs and the Astoria crowd and Frank Leone, man about town. True, the acclaim was limited and the audience was small but $\frac{3}{4}$ of the fun with Egghead. was going to practice every week and trading books, records, and movies with Reno and John. With a bit of arguing about Nixon.

Q: You're also involved with Go Metric fanzine so I'll ask you what people always ask me: Are paper fanzines obsolete? How difficult is it to keep Go Metric going today in terms of finances, distribution, etc. than it was 10 years ago?

Go Metric is like Milton from Office Space-we were fired long ago but we never got the memo. I have a real job now so it's easier to absorb the money lost with each issue. The big distributors have bowed out but we've got a great network of friends and contributors-most of whom I met through Egghead-who get copies out of my apartment into the hands of people who dig the idiocy.

Q: Please let people know what merch you'll have available at the Fest, and where they can find you on the Internet.

At fest: The Mutant Pop CD, our Dizzy 7 inches, new t-shirts, and the John Ross Bowie mugs. I recommend that people avoid the internet at all costs, but for those who insist: myspace/eggheadnyc



festipals

Interview by Jon Moser

Jon: The Festipals are... is it ok to use the word "super group"?

Jon: Absolutely. We are nothing if not a group of super guys.

Jon: Last year, you gave away an EP called *Show Us Your Accolades*, which contained some brilliant songs. Has your brilliance dried up?

Jon: Not in the least. This year we recorded a new EP called *Gold Magic*. It's Alive Records will be putting out the Tinch in a couple months and we have a teaser CDR available now at Insub Fest with 2 exclusive songs. Get your Natty Bohs ready for trading!

Jon: Oh, I can't wait. You single handedly invented the "trading new releases for beer" business model. What was that like?

Jon: Amazing. We get sooo drunk.

Jon: What's it like being one of the Festipals?

Jon: It's amazing. Being in the Festipals only takes up about three weekends a year. One weekend to record ditties, one weekend to record vocals for those ditties, and one weekend to rehearse for shows. It's not a major time commitment and makes it something we all look forward to.

Jon: Wow, that was a serious answer. Isn't this band a joke?

Jon: If it is, it's not a very good one.

Jon: Ha! You are so funny and handsome. Do go on.

Jon: The Festipals is a chance for four guys who genuinely like each other's music to get together and collaborate.

Jon: Huh, that sounds totally lame. How did this lame group get started?

Jon: Dead Mechanical was demoing songs at Phrank's place in Binghamton before the 2006 Insub Fest. I came up to finish vocals on a couple old CBGaV demos. We ended up recording a new song together called "Sentimental Fool." Matt Dorsey played the cat food bag.

Jon: Amazing! Ok, let's settle this once and for all. Are you better than Short Attention?

Jon: Honestly, every band is better than Short Attention...

THE END

PLUG: Check out www.myspace.com/festipals and look for the new Tinch *Gold Magic* coming soon on It's Alive Records.



Insubordination Fest isn't just about the music



It's about the love!



Insub. Fest Making guys question their sexuality since 2006

THE GATEWAY DISTRICT

interview by Adam Alive

The Gateway District is one of the latest bands to come out of Minneapolis, which might be the best city in the country for being home to the greatest bands going. The band is made up Maren (Soviettes), Carrie (American Monsters), Brad (Dear Landlord) and Nate (Banner Pilot, Off With Their Heads). I sent a few questions out in an email to the band just a day after they finished a week and a half tour around the midwest with Banner Pilot and The Manix. Maren and Nate were nice enough to take a few minutes to shoot back some answers...

So how long have you all been together as a band?

Maren: Me and Brad started playing in Spring of 2006, with Nate playing bass at practices and then bass and lead guitar on the 7" that came out summer 2007. Nate was busy with Banner Pilot and some other stuff, so he couldn't play the handful of shows that happened that year. One of those shows was out in California, and since the person originally lined up to play bass (Susy from the Soviettes) couldn't do it because she had sprained her wrist the weekend before, Carrie actually filled in, Brad played guitar, and another friend (Ral from Killer Dreamer and lots of other San Pedro bands) played drums. We all got together in the current line up when Carrie and I moved back to Minnesota from California in Fall 2008.

Nate: Technically, we've been a band since 2006. But really, it was just that Maren, Brad, and me wrote and recorded a 7" over two or three months that year, and then didn't do much of anything else until last summer. So even though we've technically been a band for three years, it feels more like 9 months in some ways (the amount of time since we started playing music again, Carrie joined, we started writing the album, etc etc).

Being that you're all in other bands (some of you in more than one!), was there a reason other than just playing in a band that The Gateway District came together?

Maren: Nope!

Nate: Nah, it basically just seemed like a fun thing to do

Do you all consider The Gateway District a "side project"? How do you make the distinction between a side-project band and your main band?

Maren: This is my only band so I guess I shouldn't answer this question...

Nate: I don't really think of it as a "side project"; just one of the bands I'm in. The only real difference or distinction is that it's more sporadic than some of the other ones have been.

Minneapolis has been turning out a shit ton of great bands in the underground scene. Every big city has a ton of bands, but most are all garbage. What do you think it is about the scene in Minneapolis that's the cause for not only the quantity of bands, but also the quality?

Maren: People have been asking this question for a long time, and one answer I often hear (and think is pretty valid) is the lengthy and freezing winter. People think that being cooped up against the long cold dark crappy winter breeds creativity. I think that's probably true. It also breeds depression and alcoholism, which in turn have been responsible for some good music getting written. I tend to think, though, that more than the winter making the scene, it's like the scene makes itself. People grow up understanding that you CAN make a band, it can be whatever you want it to be, sound like, look like. I think that growing up here or

moving here, either way, people are surrounded by prolific creativity, and feel the freedom and support to express themselves. The music perpetuates itself.

Nate: Well, there's a lot of garbage here too. But why are there more good bands here than in, say, Houston? (Sorry, Houston). I guess I'm not sure. I used to think the winter had something to do with it - while people in warmer climates walk around throwing frisbees and shit we're huddled in buildings, shivering and writing songs. But if this theory were true, then Alaska would be home to the greatest punk bands ever. So, I dunno. Maybe we're just lucky or something.

Ok, silly Minneapolis music question: Do any of you have any love for (the artist formerly [and now currently] known as) Prince?

Maren: Even if I wasn't born and bred south Minneapolis, I think early Prince (before the glyph) is hard not to love. He's got some new stuff out (only for Target stores I guess?) that I'm not crazy about though. Can we talk about Husker Du or the Replacements?

Nate: You know, I've never gotten into Prince, but I also have never sat down and actually listened to one of his albums.

With three band members writing close to an equal amount of songs for the new album, each with a pretty distinct lyrical style as compared to one another, is there collaboration for writing the music itself and structuring the songs to bring it all together?

Maren: Sometimes. Usually the person writing the lyrics has a good start on the music too. For me, working with Brad is almost always necessary to finish putting ideas together. And sometimes, like on "This Guitar", I've got the vocals but no idea what to do on guitar, so Nate wrote the music for that one.

Nate: There was only one song on the record that I wrote the music for-- besides that, I just helped with ideas and arrangements and wrote the guitar leads. But there's definitely a fun angle of collaboration to most of the songs where someone brings an idea to the table and we kind of toss it around, make changes here and there, hammer away at it, and end up with a song. For example the tune "United Crushers" was originally this sort of straight-forward speedy song, but after a few practices we decided to mess around with it and drop it to half time, and I'm glad we did.

You all just finished up a little tour of midwest with Banner Pilot and The Manix. Do you have plans for any future touring? Maybe some east coast dates around the Insubordination Fest? The North Park Awesome Fast in San Diego, CA has The Gateway District listed as part of the line-up for their shows in September, is that gonna happen for sure? Maybe Gainesville in October?

Maren: Well Banner Pilot and Dear Landlord are touring out to the Insubordination Fest, so Carrie and I are going to fly out to meet them for just the fest. We're trying to get to Awesome Fest on a tour of our own, but we're all broke and van-less and working jobs, so it's gonna take a little finagling. Even if we don't tour out there, we hope to play the Awesome Fest itself. We've got a lot of good friends out there and it would be great to see them and play with them!

Nate: We definitely want to play Gainesville and it sounds like we're playing the North Park one although someone else will need to play guitar because I don't think I'll be able to make it out. That's probably it for touring for awhile-- Banner Pilot takes up most of my available touring time, Brad also has Dear Landlord, etc etc. Hopefully we'll start working on a new record this fall, though.

the

Interview by Jonny Rally

guts

hey Geoff, what's with the guts?

we're rocking and kicking ass and getting ready to play some shows!!! come out! see you in the pit!

what happened to Nate?

nate is a great guy, he's moved to Boston and is starting a new band. we wish him the best in what he does.

tell us about the new record?

it's gonna be on kid tested and we recorded at sonic iguana. we had a kick ass time working with Phil Hill and are really excited for everyone to hear it once its done!!

did you get to see Phil hill's photo scanner?

ha! what? (me: nevermind)

how was it doing the Ben Weasel set at fest '07?

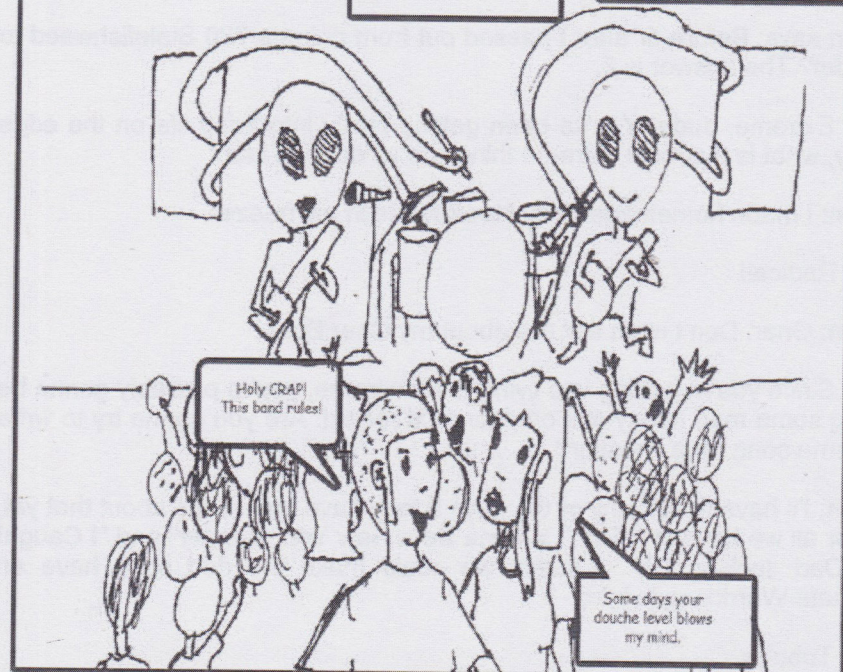
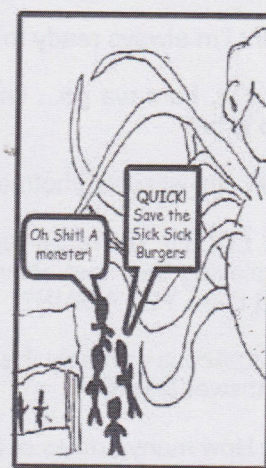
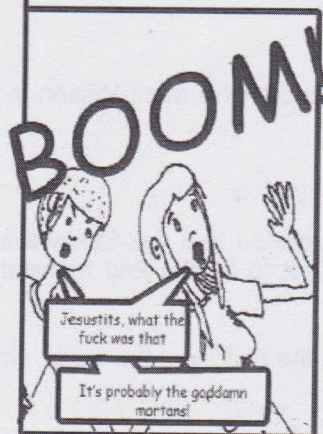
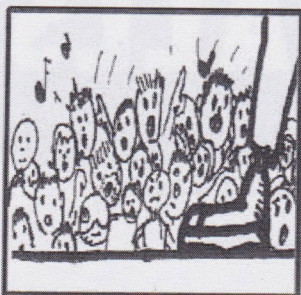
it was totally kick ass! we played with our old drummer Rick and we really had a great time and are looking to have another great time this year.

what's the best part of touring?

playing shows, meeting new people and seeing old friends.
rock!

The Fest meets the Martians

Elliott



THE HEXTALLS

Interview by Gerry Hubley

Ger: Has anyone asked to interview you for the Insub Zine yet?

Devin: No, we aren't that popular anymore. We are 2008

Ger: Well are you ready then?

Devin: I'm always ready to relive 2008

Ger: Ok, here we go... I'm not cool, so I don't know who Mark Wilson is. Who is he?

Devin: m_wilson2@hotmail.com

Ger: LOL!!!! You're so funny Devin, are you bummed that the Steinways are playing their last show at the fest and you get to be the 2nd funniest band there YET AGAIN?

Devin: Ace is probably the greatest songwriter in the history of the world, so my answer is yes.

Ger: How many bottles of Mountain Dew have you drunk so far today?

Devin says: Before or after I passed out from doing a 720 Stalefishweed to Vasdef? The answer is 8.

Ger: Extreme, dude! You've been getting pretty into living life on the edge lately, what is the most extreme thing you've done of late?

Devin: I made homemade Tony Hawkcycles in my freezer

Ger: Radical!

Devin: Gnar. Don't even ask me about my Gnar Bars

Ger: Since you're getting into living to the xtreme, you're probably gonna be doing some mad heavy shit on your next record. Are you gonna try to write a theme song for a wrestler?

Devin: I'll have to ask any of the guys if they have any songs about that yet, so far all we have is "I Don't Wanna Be a New York Ranger" and "I Caught My Dad Jacking Off". I guess we could make the dad song have an Ultimate Warrior style intro.

Ger: Tubular.

Devin: Tubin 2 electric blue blugaloo.

Ger: So by the time someone reads this you'll have been on tour with the Dopamines for a week. What has the highlight been so far of this (yet to happen) tour for you?

Devin: Dopamines drunk in New Jersey, Hextalls in New York City getting manicures.

Ger: What happens when the Vagina meets the Weiner?

Devin: I am guessing hard hug, beer, and then bukkake?

Ger: What can long-time Hextalls fans expect from your next record?

Devin: I've been writing with the fans in mind. No more swearing, no more 3 chord songs..... Expect disappointment. That's been our motto in the studio at least (I had it made on a big banner).

Ger: What do you think it's gonna take for me to get The Con to crush me?

Devin: You could try taking a shit on a Tool record, followed by asking him if Canadian girls really have sideways vaginas.

Ger: They do, don't they?

Devin: I wouldn't know, the only time I've seen a Canadian vagina I was doing a handstand.

Ger: I don't know what that means. Are you going to poop your pants when Boris The Sprinkler plays?

Devin: I'm too nervous to be excited. I have a bad feeling that Norb won't have his helmet on, and that Paul #2 will be some hired gun with huge muscles and barbed wire arm tattoos

Ger: So I'm assuming that is what you are most excited for?

Devin: The Repellents should be great, too. I heard they are going to get fucking wrecked. Like Jonnie 3 meets a keg of weed, meets a bowl of dynamite meets Bob Burnquist meets Bucky Lasek meets Asics Gels.

Ger: Anyone you aren't excited to see/run into?

Devin: I hope I don't run into Mark Wilson. Or any of the Dopamines. Or the Repellents now that it sounds like I was making fun of them.

Ger: You want/contractually have to shout out to your sponsors before we wrap this up?

Devin: Rally Around the Family Records, The Bush '08 Campaign crew, Mountain Dew crew, Motley Crue, 2 Live Crew and my mom and dad.

HOUSEBOAT

Interview by Jim Testa

Q: Who is in House Boat and why?

House Boat is Grath (me!), Ace, Mike and Zack. It's sort of like the Steinways except we only have one girl in the band this time instead of two. Why these dudes? Because I got tired of indirectly piggy-backing off my more talented friends. It was time to drop the subtlety.

Q: Did you deliberately recruit one member who lives in a different state so you wouldn't have to play a lot of shows?

No, it's just a wonderful by product of our situation.

Q: Seriously, what's your feeling about playing local shows in the NYC area? I have the feeling that you'd rather not if you didn't have to. Will there be another Grath Madden-fronted band more in the tradition of the Steinways that will play out more, or is this it for you?

Yes, I definitely kind of hate it. Living in NY is kind of a double edged sword in that there are awesome shows going on ALL the time, but, at the same time, you can burn out pretty quick. After 6 or so years, I'm tired of falling asleep in bars at 2 am on weekdays while waiting to watch or play in a band I've watched or played in dozens of times before. I feel like not having that monthly or bi-monthly "need" to play with a band will kinda get me back into music again. I like music, so it sucks not liking it so much these days. So, no, there probably won't be a band featuring me up front playing NY/NJ shows all the time.

Q: There are some very talented people in this band. Will House Boat be primarily a vehicle for your songwriting, or will other people write songs too? Do you ever collaborate on a song, and if so, what is that process like?

The album we just recorded is pretty much all my songs. Zack sings one that I wrote and Ace wrote a couple, one of which I had a very, very minor hand in. I'd love to have Zack and Mike write a song or two next time around cause those dudes are good, but those dudes also have their own shit going on, so I'm not counting on it or anything.

Collaboration isn't something I do terribly well, not that I've given it much of an effort. On top of that, I can be kind of a control freak when it comes to shit I'm

creating. Plus, I'd much rather sit around and shit talk with these dudes than sit around and musically jerk each other off. Party!

Q: Since I've known you, humor has always been a big part of your public persona. Have you always been funny? Were you the class clown in school, or the quiet kid lurking in the corner clandestinely plotting to destroy the world?

Some guy named Jim from some zine called Jersey Beat asked me this same question last year for some zine for some fest in Baltimore. I wish I could remember my answer!

Q: I am asking all of the bands the Passover question: Why is this band different from all other bands? Why should we see you play when there are 146 other bands playing at the Fest?

I dunno. We're not terribly interesting. Hopefully some people will be interested in checking us out. If not, I'm not concerned enough to do anything about that.

Q: This might be touchy, but people want to know: Why did the Steinways break up?

That band had pretty much run its course. Chris was actually planning on quitting, and this House Boat record was originally going to be "The Steinways" with Mikey on drums, but that ultimately seemed kinda dumb. The Steinways slowly became "our" band, whereas it started as "my" band. And that was awesome, but I'm a selfish motherfucker, so I wanted "my" band again.

Q: Here is your big chance: What is Chris Grivet really like?

Another repeat question from last year, old man!!!! Someone needs some ginko biloba or a fucking memory smoothie or something! Chris Grivet is one of the best dudes around!!!

Q: What do you expect to have available in the way of recordings and other merch by the time Insub Fest rolls around? What's the band's status in terms of a label and future recording plans? The Steinways had an Angelfire.com website from 1995, for chrissakes. What's House Boat's deal with MySpace, Facebook, etc etc.?

I'd love to say the album will be ready and available for Insub, but I doubt that. Some bullshit about the label dude and dudette having a baby or something. I dunno, sounds like a bunch of excuses to me! Maybe we'll toss together a sampler or something. Or maybe a tape so we fit in with the cool kids of 2009! Who knows?! It's Alive and House Party (from Canada) are co-releasing this record. Hopefully this won't be the last one we do. In a normal year, I come up with maybe 15 or 20 songs I like, and I'd love to have this be the outlet for those. We had a pretty awesome time recording these songs with Luke from the Copyrights up at Sonic Iguana, and I'd love to do that again. So, yeah, hopefully next year we'll make another record. As far as web presence, myspace.com/houseboattakesnoprisoners is where it's at. I am an uncaring and apathetic motherfucker when it comes to promotion and "getting the name out there," so that's pretty much gonna be it. You can e-mail the band at houseboatissserious@gmail.com. We almost definitely won't write back, but you're welcome to give it a shot anyway.

JETTY BOYS

Interview by Jonny Rally

1) who are the guys in the band? where are you from and is it cool there? (I know but all the dongbags reading this thing may not)

E: Myself (Eric) (bass/vox), Jon "Bunnz" (drums/vox) and Drew (guitar/vox) We're all from Sheboygan, WI. I think it's cool here. Not cool in a "hey we've got some great punk clubs" way, but cool in a I like living in this town kinda way. It's not that big. Not too far from stuff. We make brats and toilets. Good stuff. Plus it's always cooler near the lake.

B: I was born and raised in Sheboygan, but every one thinks I'm from Uranus.

2) I hear bunnz plays with toys in the van. can you elaborate on this? who said this? Kurt baker. but I saw a guy put his finger in Kurt's navel once, so take it with a grain of salt.

B: Yeah I play with Fucken Toys. I ain't ashamed to admit that! Like I say' "I don't want to grow up cause I'm a Toys R' Us kid" Bitches!

E: Prolly was Kurt Baker, that fuzzy fucker! Bunnz does indeed play with toys in the van. I guess we all do. We stop at thrift stores and get action figures to put under the wiper blades and see how long they can last when we turn them on. If they make it on low we got to medium and so on. We have a grand champion who's never fallen off. Most dudes just go fuckin' flying though! Giant bouncing balls from rest stops are also fun to throw in front of the van to bounce off the highway and back up on the van. Good stuff. Bunnz has been known to be in the back with hot wheel cars going "vroooooom vroooooom! SMASH!". He's 25. It's cool.

3) often on a tour you have to take a righteous poo, what's the most heinous shitter you've clogged up?

E: I remember trying to shit at the Roach in Port Huron, Michigan. The stall had no door. We were supposed to block the door so no one would come in but it was a lost cause. So we went to a gas station not too far away. I did one of them cloggers where the whole bowl overflows and shit-water went everywhere. Unfortunately the guy with me couldn't use it after me and we had to play so he had to hold it. He was pissed!

B: I don't really don't have bowel problems. Pretty standard shits. My gas is another story. I once farted a hot wheels car.

D: I don't remember the last toilet I clogged. Once at the Borg Ward I couldn't find the light switch. So I started peeing in a semi circle and I never once heard it hit

water!

4) what band that you have toured with that totally shocked you that they didn't hella suck?

E: I dunno about toured with. I remember the first time we accidentally ended up at the Glendora House and the Dopamines and Two Inch Winky impressed the living shit outta me. It was one of those moments where all their friends knew all the words and were screaming along and dumping beer everywhere and I just stood there thinking "this is great! I wish I knew the songs!"

D: Deep Sleep ruled my world one fine day.

B: Probably the Side Project. We get drunk and well... 4 dudes, one shower, Totally not gay! I love those dudes.

5) when on a tour where is the definitive place to get cheap kick ass road eats? what do you get?

E: We bring a cooler full of non perishable food items. That usually does the trick. We did have many a Cracker Barrel stops with the Leftovers 'cause they for some reason love that place. Prolly Subway's the best bet. 5 bucks gets you two meals.

D: Kwik Trip because they're always open. They always have roller dogs on and bagels slightly hard and coffee always hot.

B: Funyons and my mom packs me a lunch.

6) what kinda stuff do you guys listen to in the van? motivational Tony Robbins stuff? or like nothing?

E: We always have tunes on. Sometimes I dork out and play songs only by bands from the states we're in. That's kinda fun. There's certain records and bands that are good for certain things. Like The Ergs! Dorkrockcorkrod or Descendents Everything Sucks are good "gotta stay awake and sing along" records. Riverdales Storm the Streets is a good "we're almost there fuck yeah!" record.

D: My stand by when I'm ready to fall asleep while driving is Cowboy Song by Thin Lizzy or some other song that always me to mouth the guitar solo. Then I use words like "schwer-ner-ner" and "wee-da-lee-wee-da-lee" or to put yer front two teeth to your bottom lip and treat it like a kazoo!

B: My motivation is probably the Descendents. And well I have an obsession with My Chemical Romance. Yeah I know, fuck off!

7) any new projects you're working on?

E: We just finished album two, dude! Now we just have to name that sucker!

D: Sonic Jett Records is doing a 3 song 7" ep before the end of the world.

B: Trying to get more than just the head.

8) who are your influences in rock? life?

E: As a young dude I worshiped Guns N' Roses. For bass players I'd say Karl Alvarez and Joe Erg. Guys that do more than sit on the root note. The Ramones. Any thing Vapid does. Screeching Weasel. Descendents/ALL. I like getting influenced by my friends and their bands. Like when you hear a song in your head and start writing it thinking it's in the style of said band. By the time it's actually all worked out it sounds nothing like that, but I love when that happens.

D: If it was about epiphany's of when I knew what good music was I can remember the first time I heard the Descendents which was on the Vision Psycho Skate video. I can remember never hearing anything like that and being totally floored. I can also remember brining in the ALL song Carnage to my guitar teacher to learn how to play and he said "I dunno how to play that". So I figured that was pretty cool. As far as guitar players go I hope to someday shake hands with C.C. DeVille and say "nice job for being a wank-master".

B: STYX!

9) what other bands do you play in?

E: I'm in the Carbombs (www.myspace.com/carbombsmusic) with Bunnz. I play drums and he yells like a maniac. Sorta hardcore/pop punk/funny stuff. You don't know it yet Mr. Rally but you technically wrote one of the songs, "Starlite Walker".

D: I play guitar and sing in the Sugar Stems (www.myspace.com/sugarstems). We're recording our first full length in July.

B: Well I make a real nice ass of myself singing in the Carbombs. I was also in a band called Cap Gun Murder that was well.. a mess that I'm glad broke up, and I think me and Eric are still technically in Bob Burns and the Breakups? Oh yeah I can't forget about the greatest team duo of LAKE DICK (me and Eric)!

10) what makes jonny rally so sexy?

E: His undying devotion to Coors Light!

D: That he's all man!

B: Being drunk and well.. He's so god damn lovable. Not to mention that insane amount of beer we consume every time we're together.

11) is there a preferred band beverage? what is it?

E: Prolly anything with caffeine. Coffee, soda, etc. Beer. Whiskey. Cheap bottles of Gin for the road to mix with Sunny D.

D: Soda, coffee and non distilled beverages.

B: 30 shitty beers, one good one.

12) if something really cool could happen to you guys , what would it be?

E: It'd be cool to see our vinyl on this tour!

D: ...and people will buy it.

B: Two dudes at the same time. I mean Two Chicks!! Two Chicks at the same time. I'm not Gay! 88

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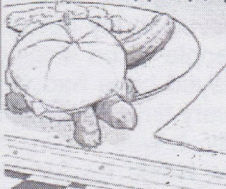
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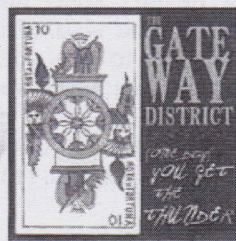


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THE GATEWAY DISTRICT
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the methadones



THE METHADONES + THE COPYRIGHTS LP



A VERY SHORT INTERVIEW WITH CHELSEA LACATENA of SHORT ATTENTION

By Jim Testa

- Q: Members?
A: us
Q: Style?
A: none
Q: Influences?
A: bands
Q: Fest?
A: yes
Q: Pop-Punk?
A: pop
Q: Pet peeves?
A: idiots
Q: Albums?
A: got 'em
Q: Grives?
A: monkey
Q: Ben Weasel?
A: weasel
Q: Future plans?
A: maybe

★ JOHN ★ WALSH

Interview by Tom Schmidlin

Tom Stray: This is John Walsh's first Insub Fest. Around Cincinnati you guys are known for positive crowd participation. What kind of reaction do you expect from the Baltimore crowd?

Eric: I guess it's more of a hope than an expectation, seeing as we haven't played many out of town shows yet, but what I would love is for lots of people to be singing along. The couple of out of town shows that we've played have had varying levels of participation, but we've still had a blast every time. Nothing will top our very first show in terms of playing in a 'new' city. It was in Cincinnati, but it totally counts as new, and everyone knew the lyrics! It's fun to see people high five for a half an hour, but for me watching people smile and sing is the best part.

Tom Stray: Are there any specific bands you're looking forward to seeing at this year's Fest?

Eric: I am most excited to see The Unlovables because they weren't around last year! I guess I haven't seen them maybe since that last Columbus show with Team Stray, and also with the train punx? Kamiella's Game will also be an absolute joy to see again. I love that band! Teen Idols: despite years of liking them, I've never seen them (even though they came to Cincinnati a million times back in the day). Delay will be sweet to see in front of the large crowd. I love those dudes. There will be some new bands that I don't know that I like yet as well, I'm sure....

Tom Stray: What part(s) of your trip to Baltimore are you most looking forward to that are non-Fest related?

Eric: Over the last three years I've really enjoyed Baltimore. The Atomic shops and the little kitschy stores are lots of fun to buy dumb stuff at (and sometimes actual not so dumb stuff). I also enjoy buying new sodas that we don't have in Cincinnati. Last year there was this Bear Mountain, or something close to that, beverage that was basically peppermint lozenge water. It was terrible, but interesting. I'm hoping to visit more outside of Ohio Half Price Books this year. 2009 will be the year of relaxing. I didn't

mention the Golden West, though I am now, because although they did give me the best pancake ever one year, last year they did me no favors!

Tom Stray: John Walsh's popularity has grown exponentially in the past year or so. To what do you attribute this phenomenon?

Eric: It's probably because of the internets, as well as word of mouth. A bunch of young kids started coming out to shows this year, and they've been interwebbing it up. There may also be a slight addition because people can't resist wearing those shirts with the thumbs up Zack on the back, and those came out this year.....

Tom Stray: What's in the immediate, near, and distant future for JW?

Eric: The immediate future would be the excellent B-More fest, which will be hangout 100 time. It'll be my first trip out without Team Stray, which will be bummers, but I'll make it, I think. In the near future is an ep release (maybe a 7") titled "Home." It's all short songs from when we wrote a couple for Short Attention and we just kept going. And in the distant future will be another full-length that will be pressed this time! Around that same time the new show move will be the high five circle pit, where two circles of people (one inside the other) moving in opposite directions are constantly high fiving. EXHILARATING.



LEVOLUME ETAIT AU MAXIMUM

Interview by David Brown

1) Introduce yourselves to readers! Who is Le Volume Etait Au Maximum? Who plays in it?

LVEAM is basically a one-man band. I, Johnny Love, play everything on the records and I bring a few idiots with me on stage when we play live. Right now I sing and play guitar live, Frite is playing the keyboards and Trey is on the drums.

2) How long have Le Volume been a band? How did you start?

LVEAM and PAF! Records started in 2000. I've been in a few bands before but I really wanted to make my own things. I tried to gather musicians for years, even putting ads in local newspapers. But since I couldn't find any good musician who wanted to play pure simple pop, I started the whole thing all by myself, playing every instruments and doing everything. And almost 10 years later, nothing has changed... :)

3) How would you describe your sound, and who would you say you are primarily influenced by?

When I was younger, I think I spent too much time alone in the rehearsing space singing Queens songs and drinking beer. Too much that my voice was forged in a way that I can't deny the fact that it's a bit Joe Queer-ish. But it's too late; I can't do a thing about it. Of course we all come from the Ramones background, but my personal influences are very large. In fact, I try not to sound like anything. On every new album, I try to make something different. I try to create a new sound everytime. To create jolly good and simple pop songs, but with a sound that hasn't been heard before. It would be too easy (and boring) to make a guitar-bass-drums record that sound like 10,000,000 other bands. The production and recording aspect in LVEAM is very important. It's totally a part of it.

4) Talk us through your releases so far.

I released 6 albums and about 20 EPs... The latest album is called "Les vacances" and was released last summer...

5) You are obviously a french-canadian band, but where is your largest fan base- Europe, Canada or America?

Yeah right now our songs are 100% French, except for covers. But I'd really like to write some stuff in English in the near future... To be honest, I already have a whole album written in English... I just need some time and money to record it. LVEAM is kind of well known here... Somehow we got very good

coverage by medias here... But strangely enough, I think our fanbase is mainly from Europe and the US... We don't sell a lot of records, but I would say that only about 10-20% of the records are sold in Canada. I know, I really should move out of here...! :)

6) So, is this your first Insubordination Fest? What was it that made you want to play it?

Yep, first show ever in the States actually. Well, first show outside of Canada too! Since it's our first time there, we're pretty nervous about the long ride, crossing the border with dreadlocks and guitars and stuff... But it will be lots of fun. Insub fest is the greatest thing in the world. Since its very first edition, we kept dreaming about this. Seeing and meeting all the greatest bands in the world. Then one day I got a email from the VERY COOL guys at Insub, inviting us to the fest. That was it..!

7) Which band are you most looking forward to seeing at the fest, and why?

Well, I really want to see all the bands I can. Most of those bands will never come to Canada so it's our only chance to see them live. But I really can't wait to see the termites and the apers. It's so cool to have all those bands gathered together. To have those big legendary headliners mixed with newer bands. I really hope Insub will happen for the next 100 years....

8) What do you enjoy the most when you come to visit the USA?

I live about 5 minutes from the Vermont border so we cross the border every week to buy gas and stuff. I really love the states. It has a complete different vibe from Canada. You can feel it even a few miles past the border. The coffee is great, people are kind. So many different things to see. And we can buy so many vegan products not even available in Canada. But I think the best part of it is having the chance to meet great people there. People and bands that, without them, music would probably be dead.

9) And finally, what are Le Volume's plans for the rest of 2009? Could there possibly be some new material in store?

Just taking it cool for the rest of the year. I spent four years working on the latest album so I need a break. With have a couple of nice shows this summer and that's about it. We used to play a lot but we changed our philosophy. We want to do less gigs, but cooler ones. No new stuff until next year for sure. But I already started working and recording the new stuff. In fact, I'm working on 5 new different LVEAM albums right now...

10) Any last words? Where can people go if they want to find out more about Le Volume Etait Au Maximum?

www.pafdisques.com, my record label. Now completely in French AND English! A big thanks to you David, and all the cool people out there who keep the good music alive...!!!

THE LEFTOVERS

interview by Jonny Rally

what 'sup Kurt?

Not to much! Just hanging out in the backwoods of Mississippi drinking cold beers and sitting on porches!

the new record, does it kick in balls?

It sure does... but you gotta turn it up real loud! Also, it's great beer drinking music. Our friend Timmy chugged down a beer for every song on "Eager to Please", and by the time the 35 minutes was up he was naked and putting uncooked bacon all over his body. Some people may think we have gone a bit soft with "Eager to Please", but really we are just trying new ways of being "sexy loud", a new form of pop music. Get hip!

will matt be a part of the band at some point?

Smash is a part of the band! Without him, we probably wouldn't be having half the fun we have. As soon as we enter the studio and record a new record you'll be seeing him on the album cover. He has been touring with us from pretty much the start, but he hasn't recorded with us yet. His time is now!

tell me about oglio, the new label?

Oglio records is a label run by a certain man named Carl. He not only releases cool albums like Brian Wilson "Live @ The Roxy", Cindi Laupers latest and Nerf Herder, but he also has started a new imprint called Crappy Records with "Eager to Please" album producer Linus of Hollywood and Bowling For Soup frontman Jeret Reddick. Oglio/Crappy records released our new album and they are nice guys.

will we have fun on tour in England? explain???

Fun is an understatement. We might go over there and cause so much trouble, Revolutionary War 2 is going to go down!! This October, watch out!

does Andrew ever have fun?

No.

what's your favorite place to play?

We love playing everywhere... but St. Louis is amazing. We have NEVER had a bad show there. Totally great and always a party! Spain is fun too. New York City is great, but kinda expensive and last time we were there I got drugged by some old metal dude in a Stryper t-shirt. He was weird. Weird night.



any pre-show rituals?

Jumping Jacks. Pizza and Beer. Chicks if ya got em' too!

what makes jonny rally so sexy?

Where do we even begin? Well lets start with his fine Ham, and his use of fun words like "Dong Bag".

what band are you gaga about right now? why?

Well, I really like the Tinted Windows record, but I heard that they are god awful live... which is a huge let down. BUT, us four all love a band called Locksley, who have a record out called "Don't Make Me Wait", and its fucking fantastic. We listen to it all the time in the band. It sounds really good for your ears man!

what are the bands plans?

Tour tour tour, party party party! Pizza pizza pizza!!

will you play requests?

I don't wanna sound like an asshole, but I'll just say it : depends on the night. Last night for instance we played 3 Michael Bolton songs. Last tour we took a couple request. Get us drunk and we will play you the entire soundtrack to the musical CATS!

give me a road scandal story without names!!

This one time in Baltimore, a lead singer of ours had a run in with a lady named "Jose", who didn't end up being a lady at all. They went on a picnic and feasted on finer things. Adam found out and got totally jealous. The band broke up. Jose and a certain lead singer of the Leftovers went to Puerto Rico, got married, divorced and the band got back together.

Loblaws

Interview by Noah W.K.

The Loblaws are a band from Nashville Tennessee, who has taken my record player by storm with the release of their first 7inch record "Won't Stop" on the famous Mutant Pop Records. They combine the most desired pop punk qualities of awesome hooks, catchy harmonies and memorable lyrics and do so in a way that you will not forget the name Loblaws any time soon.

Brett Patton - BP * Mike Patton - MP * Wyatt Funderburk - WF * Todd Patton - TP

Noah W. K. - Lets start things off simple, how about you all introduce yourselves and tell us what you do in The Loblaws.

BP: I'm Brett, and I'm the lead singer and master of the band. (WF: and the class clown, obviously.)

WF: I'm Wyatt; I play the low notes and sing the high notes.

MP: I'm Mike and I play guitar.

TP: I'm Todd, and I play the hi-hat really fast.

Noah W. K. How did the Loblaws come to be? Give us some background and history of the band.

TP: Wyatt and I were already playing in Second Saturday and wanted to start a punk band with my brother Mike. After a few practices we decided to give our little brother Brett a shot at lead vocals and that's where the current line up came from.

Noah W. K. - One-thing readers might be wondering, well at least I am wondering; what is a Loblaws?

BP: Bob Loblaws is a lawyer from the show Arrested Development (played by Scott Baio)... so basically we're all lawyers.

Noah W. K. - Your debut release was put out by Mutant Pop Records, and I think it fully captures the summation of some of the classic Mutant Pop releases of past. How was the experience of working with Mutant Pop and was it symbolic to have them release it?

MP: Timbo is such a great guy. He was so supportive from the beginning. At first he was just going to help us find a label, but then ended up asking us to go with him. I've sent him all of my songs I've written over the last 8 years or so and he's had nothing but praise and advice and wisdom to share. At this point, whether he's putting out records or not, I feel pretty fortunate to have him for a friend. The fact that our debut record got to be a part of such an awesome label is just a bonus.

Noah W. K. - In 2008 my two favorite 7inches that came out were The Loblaws "Won't Stop" and the Sci-Fi Nightmares "Cold & Blue", and now you and the Sci Fi Nightmares are releasing a split record. Tell us how this came to be and if

you have any other upcoming releases.

MP: Rami, another awesome guy, runs Killer Records. He and I talked about a number of potential projects and I proposed the split. I don't think he had heard Sci-Fi Nightmares, but I love their band and Rami liked them too after listening. I'm really glad it worked out.

Right now we're finishing up recording our side of a split 12-inch with a band from New Orleans called The Rooks. It's being put out by two New Orleans labels: One Eye Records and Community Records. Three of us are from New Orleans and have so many friends there that have been very supportive of our music over the years. This project has been planned for over a year now and grew from a 7-inch to a 12-inch when Timbo put Mutant Pop back in sleep mode, leaving us with extra recordings.

Noah W. K. - Wyatt, you are playing three sets this year at Insub Fest (Loblaws, Backseat Virgins & The Parasites), how do you keep that from being overwhelming making sure you are all set for each set? Does being in other band ever interfere with Loblaws practice or things like that?

WF: Well, I don't need a lot of practice because I'm so awesome! Seriously, I do practice a lot on my own because it's hard to keep up with all the bands I play in. The Parasites stuff is a real challenge for me so that's what I've been working on the most.

Noah W. K. - What are your favorite and least favorite Loblaws songs to play?

BP: My favorites are "Prom Queen" and "Watch Out for Me". Those really make me pumped up when I'm on stage. I don't really have a least favorite, cause I love every song Mike and Wyatt write! I consider myself lucky to be able to sing them!

Noah W. K. - I think the Beatnik Termites cover is perfect for your album, what made you decide to record a Termite's cover and how much did the Pop Punk Message Board influence you on which song to chose?

MP: Wyatt and Pat have been friends for a while and we obviously love their music. Tim asked us to record a cover to kind of let people know where we're coming from. We decided on the Termites and posted on the PPMB to ask for song suggestions, but everyone just kind of made fun of us. So we picked "9:15" and it turned out to be my favorite recording on the record. Wyatt kicked ass recording it and Todd nailed the drums.

Noah W. K. - Quickly tell the readers why they should not miss your set at this years Insubordination Fest.

BP: Because we're the best band in the world... better than Jesus.

TP: ...I'm going to go ahead and agree with that!

the methadones

Interview by Lyndsy Huffman

1. You seem to be involved in a few projects right now...what are they and how are things going?

I have a lot going on right now. Maybe too much depending on how you look at it.

Screeching weasel, Riverdales, Methadones and Noise By Numbers

NBN started when I got laid off last November. A friend of mine (Jeff Dean) who plays in the Bomb asked me if i wanted to jam one afternoon. Songs started coming out and we decided that they should have a home. Being unemployed it didn't take long for Jeff and I to write a lot of songs since we both had ample time to do so. Noise by numbers was born. We just recorded at Atlas with Matt Alison.

2. Could you give some details about Transparent Records? Who is involved with it and are there any upcoming releases?

Adam Fletcher (Copyrights)and I released a methadones/copyrights split record. So far this has been it.

3. What is next for the Methadones?

We recorded last April for two 7" on "It's alive records" and "Underground commune". We will be playing Insub fest next month, Chicago's Metronome fest and just played Windy city sound clash last night which was fun.

4. You played the Insubordination Fest last year with Sludgeworth and I was in heaven. How was it for you?

Fun. I thought the set went well in Baltimore. I hadn't seen those guys in years and everything came right back to us. Also, we had a lot of fun talking about all the funny shit we did in our youth. We used to have a really weird sense of humor that is hard to define. Those old jokes and quirks came back with the Sludgeworth songs. It was like riding a bike or something. Band dynamics are always interesting.

5. I've been told I have a sickness for anything you're involved in, particularly the Methadones, that modern psychological medicine won't cure. I don't even know what that means, but I listen closely to all of the albums. While listening to This Won't Hurt, I noticed a theme that wasn't as obvious in other albums. Most songs on TWH seemed darker to me....sad, miserable, and a bleak view of the future. Is this accurate

or way off?

It probably is somewhat accurate. I've had depression and panic attacks since I was 13. So, there is a history of that type of distorted thought process there. Thoughts and feelings rooted in depression and anxiety can be very difficult to manage. Whether they are rational or not. Since, I don't believe in holding back or sugar coating what I'm feeling my songs come out this way. When it's done I move on and forget about it. In a way it's therapeutic. Writing songs has always been a great outlet. I'm really not sure

6. I have a Methadones sweatshirt I wore to a statistics class while in grad school and the professor referred to me as "Methadone" in front of the class. He couldn't understand why a band would be called the Methadones. It made me giggle. your thoughts?

That's pretty funny. It also sounds like something my mom would say. In a way I understand it. Since it's birth, punk rock bands have always had ridiculous names. It's part of the charm. But to answer your question, there is no significance to the name.

7. I'm getting married to the man that is responsible for introducing me to a world that includes the Methadones. We aren't having a fancy pants wedding, but whatever we'll do will center around our love of music and the pop punk genre. What songs would you recommend for our first dance or for the wedding in general?

I would suggest something classic. Early Beatles, Beach boys or Ramones.

8. Are you at a different place in your life than this time last year? What do you have planned in the next year?

A lot. My fiance and I are buying a condo. We are getting married in October (our first song will be Santo and Johnny's "Sleepwalk") hopefully a honeymoon in Hawaii. I have gigs with Riverdales, Screeching weasel, Methadones, Noise by numbers. I hope to do some fishing, Bar-b-ques, some good bike rides, camping, Farmers markets, Hopefully get a good yield of juicy tomatoes in September. Take a few classes and get a part time job.

9. I looked at your Myspace page and it says you like to cook. What are your top 5 favorite things to make?

That's tough but I'll give it a shot.

Risotto (any kind)

Fresh Pasta with Sun-dried tomatoes, broccoli and ricotta salata.

Seared Yellow-fin tuna over lemon, olive oil dressed Arugula.

Bouillabaisse-or any other seafood stew like Cioppino, Gumbo, etc..

Eggs Benedict.

or any recipe from Rick Bayless.

Pansy Division

Interview by Danny White

Your new album is called *That's So Gay*, a term that has made it's way into everyday conversation. Is this really as offensive of a term as some of the bigger racial slurs out there?

Maybe not as offensive as others, but the intent is the same--using the phrase demeans and insults people. It says gay=bad, gay=negative, gay=worthless. Not a good message for a budding young queer to be getting over and over.

I know you're out playing acoustically promoting your new book and DVD. Are there any plans for a full band tour in the near future?

Yes: our east coast tour will be June 17-28, and our west coast tour will be in September. Dates will be posted soon on our Gigs page at pansydivision.com

What was it like collaborating with Jello Biafra on the new album?

Great! It was quick and easy. It was fun watching him do his thing in the studio, to see him work his magic up close.

With the band's pro gay message, I'm sure you've touched your share of people's lives and made things easier for them being out. How good does that feel knowing you've made a difference out there?

Pretty good. Some people have told us it saved their lives. That's really the ultimate compliment.

Your albums usually feature a nice balance between humorous material and more heartfelt songs. Do tunes like *Pat Me On The Ass* ever feel a little juvenile to you after all this time?

That song came out of an effort to write a more serious song about homophobia in sports. But once I hit on the phrase, I knew taking the humorous route would work out better. I try to channel Lux Interior when I sing that song, to really exaggerate it, and just go crazy. Is it a bit silly to have grown up act like that? Maybe, but why play rock and roll if you're worried about being embarrassed? Foolishness keeps you young!

I was excited when I heard that Pansy Division was announced to play this year's Insubordination Fest. What do you have in store for your fans at this show?

A blend of the old and familiar and the new and different. Some of the old Lookout bands sound frozen in time, for better or worse. Our first album came out 16 years ago. If we were doing the same old thing at this point, I'd



be bored with it.

Do you ever find your band's message clashing with your songwriting?

Sometimes I write songs that don't seem to fit Pansy Division. But I write enough of them so that's it's not a problem.

Do you ever feel like you have to "gay up" a song you wrote?

It goes both ways--sometimes I gay it up, sometimes I back it off, depending on what the song requires.

On a related note, does having a straight guitarist change your songwriting style at all?

Nope! I've noticed recently that a lot of high school and college gay student groups now have names like the Gay/Straight Alliance, or Queers and Allies of ___ University. Though Joel isn't gay, he's obviously an ally, and his song on the new album, "Some Of My Best Friends", written from his perspective, is a fantastic song and great addition to our catalog.

One great thing about your band is it's openness about everything sexual. Who is your dream celebrity cock that you'd love to get a hold of?

The Jonas Brother with the curly hair. Is he 18 yet? I can wait. He says he's saving his virginity for marriage, which means he'll probably be aching for some blowjobs in the meantime.

PARASITES

Interview by Noah W.K.

The Parasites are a band that needs no introduction, a band who has been doing their thing and has never once looked back. Dave Parasite, the backbone and voice of The Parasites has held this band together over years with different lineups and a multitude of great songs. I think that with their new lineup and new album listeners will be more than intrigued that The Parasites will be present at this year's Insubordination Fest.

Noah W. K. - Dave, this year you have a brand new lineup to showcase your new songs and the hits. Tell us a little something about this lineup and how it differs from playing with The Ergs!?

Dave Parasite - As we all know by now, a world without the Ergs is a cold and clammy place, but we all must carry on. I've known Wyatt, Steven and Todd for a long time, and I'm sure that we can pull it off. We will be showcasing new songs at the Insub Fest this year, and as far as the 'hits' go, I don't remember having any of those. I won't know exactly how this lineup differs from playing with The Ergs until I go down to Nashville to practice with them, which is still a few weeks away as of this writing. Steven and Wyatt were both involved with recording the Solitary album, though, so it'll be fine.

Noah W. K. - You have been writing his songs for years now, how if at all has your approach to song writing changed?

Nope, not at all. My approach to writing has always been the same - never force it, run with any ideas I think of, and try to turn each idea into a complete song while it's still fresh. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't. A lot of people seem to think that I was heavily influenced by current Pop Punk bands for the songs on the new album, but I got to say if I was, then it must have been subconsciously.

Noah W. K. -You just released your new album "Solitary" on Kid Tested Records. Tell us a little about the record and the label itself.

I had the title for the album way, way before I recorded it. It was planned out for a long time, but I'm really happy that it's finally done. I made a conscious decision to divide the album into three parts: old songs that were either never finished or never recorded before, songs from a little ways back that I thought were the best ones from that bunch, and brand new ones. I thought it would keep the band's identity intact, but still sound fresh if I did it that way, and I think it worked. I've been pleasantly surprised at the reaction I've been getting so far. It has been released in Japan and Spain on CD, and in the UK on vinyl, as well as in the US on both CD and vinyl, so this one is really getting around.

I started Kid Tested Records with the release of the Pop Punk's Not Dead compilation CD in spring of 2007 as kind of a test, and then when that went well, I really shifted into high gear last June. There are 9 full lengths out now, and a bunch more in the planning-stages. I've released CDs by both established bands like Sloppy Seconds, Squirtgun, The Yum Yums and The Manges, as well as newer

bands like One Short Fall and Torture The Artist. Again, I'm trying to balance the roster between known bands and new bands, kind of like what I did with the Solitary album. I feel that since I've been in a band so long, and dealt with labels for so long, it gives me a good perspective on both what bands want their label to do, and what a label wants their bands to do, and so far it's working out.

Noah W. K. - I know a lot of people are looking forward to seeing the Parasites at Insubordination Fest. What bands are you excited to check out?

Well, there's so many to choose from, but as far as most excited goes, I'd have to say:

90's Bands : Boris The Sprinkler, Squirtgun, Teen Idols + King Fu Monkeys

Newer Bands : Dopamines, Lemuria, Jetty Boys + House Boat

Noah W. K. - What is the future for The Parasites? Will there be any touring aside from this trip to Baltimore?

Yes, we'll be going to Spain in September, then to Japan in October. 'Solitary' came out on CD in both countries, and both the Spanish label (Rock Indiana) and the Japanese label (Inya Face / CR Japan) are organizing the tours for us. I've only toured Japan once before, and it was amazing, so I'm really looking forward to going back, and Spain has always been the place where we get the biggest crowds. I would go to Spain every few months if I could. This will be the 4th time I've been there, and I still kind of know my way around some of the Spanish cities that we've played a few times.

Noah W. K. - Looking back on all the albums you have released, which is your favorite album that you still enjoy going back to and listening to? Do you have any favorite songs to play live?

I don't really listen to Parasites albums too often. Each one has songs that I feel have held up well, as well as songs that haven't, but really, it's up to each person that hears them to decide which ones work for them and which ones don't. We try to play the songs that we think people want to hear, and I'm happy to do that. I know that in regards to Japan and Spain, the most popular songs are really different in each country, and we try to customize the set list according to what people in each country want to hear us play.

Noah W. K. - Thanks for taking your time, any final comments or things you'd like to tell the readers?

Check us out at the Fest on Saturday, or on the web at www.myspace.com/officialparasites, and check out Kid Tested Records on either www.myspace.com/kidtestedrecords or www.kidtestedrecords.com
Thanks !!

PSYCHED TO DIE

Interview by
David 69

David: First off let me say your music has brought me much enjoyment. I was sad to see The Ergs breakup but at the same time I love the direction that you've taken with this new band.

Psyched To Die is an obvious departure from The Ergs. I mean The Ergs had some fast hardcore influenced songs, but nothing like this. Why did you decide to start a band like this instead of following a similar sound to the other bands you play in?

Mike: I was working with Brian one night and he turned to me and said "let's start a fast punk band". It's basically that simple. At this point the Ergs were still together and I thought it would be cool to do a band that was just Snotty and Punk Rock.

David: When exactly did you and Brian form Psyched To Die?

Mike: Our first practice was the first week of December 2007. We didn't add Frump and start playing out until summer of 2008 though.

David: Where did Frump come from, what band was he in before Psyched To Die?

Mike: Frump was in a band called Fast Times, which was one of the first local punk bands I ever saw. I didn't really know him then. I first met him a couple years ago because he started taking picture at shows and he handed me a disc with a bunch of Ergs photos on it. Around the time we recorded the demo and decided we were ready to start playing out, we asked him to play second guitar to fill out the sound of the band.

David: Has there been any sort of backlash amongst Ergs fans for your new music, or has everyone found the transition from pop punk to hardcore punk easy?

Mike: People have been pretty open to it actually. People do tell me that I should do another poppy band at some point and I'm sure I will, but the reaction to PTD has been very positive so far.

David: What type of crowds have been showing up for Psyched To Die shows? Is it some sort of a mix of people who know you from The Ergs or The Unlovables, and then at the same time hardcore kids who never followed your other stuff but saw the band open for say the Cro-Mags or whomever else you've played with?

Mike: I've noticed that it's a lot of the same people that would come to Ergs shows. On tour, the best nights were the cities that the Ergs did really well in. We're still fairly new so I'm sure once we play out some more it will start to become a mix of both.

David: So you're playing Insubordination Fest with Psyched To Die, as well as a bunch of other bands you're in (how many?), anyone at this year's fest that you're particularly psyched to see play?

Mike: I think I'm doing 6 sets this year. Crazy. As for bands I'm totally stoked for, I'm really excited to see Boris the Sprinkler, Egghead., Spodie, Dead Milkmen, D4, Toys That Kill...I'm pretty much into every band playing so it will be an exhausting weekend for me.

David: You got Brian Gorseger formerly of For Science as the drummer for Psyched To Die. His old band broke up around the same time as The Ergs, but under some much odder circumstances, with the singer breaking down on drugs and moving to Hawaii. Have you or Brian talked to him since? Do you know if he's doing okay?

Mike: Yeah, He's doing fine. He apparently got really sick while he was in New Orleans but he's all better now. He's working on some solo stuff that I'm sure will blow minds.

David: And concerning your bassist am I correct in assuming J Nixon is an homage to Greg Ginn's alter ego Dale Nixon? Who is J Nixon's true identity?

Mike: Actually, as far as I know J Nixon is his real name.

David: Speaking of Greg Ginn, Psyched To Die is clearly influenced by early Black Flag and other SST stuff. If the band continues will the music start to mix in other styles outside of hardcore like Black Flag, the Meat Puppets, Husker Du, and the likes eventually did? You could say The Ergs were pretty well known for doing this.

Mike: Our Newest 7" Scatter Brained is a bit different. On the title track there's some more singing and it's a bit longer than most of our other stuff. The b-side of the record is closer to the songs from the demo. The Ergs kind of made it a point to throw every style under the sun into our music. PTD started as more of a "let's do this one thing" kind of band and then morphed into "Let's do whatever we think sounds good." I'm sure we'll evolve even more on our next few releases.

David: Do you expect the band to grow lyrically as well as musically? Will the focus, stay on pessimistic, nihilistic, death themed songs?

Mike: That's one thing that I think will stay the same. The Music will evolve however it does but I think the constant will be the dark lyrics. I think that's what makes Psyched to Die Psyched To Die.

David: You have a very diverse taste in music, what got you into all these different subsets?

Mike: I've just always been into all kinds of music since I was very young. If it sounds good to me, I'll listen to it. No matter what genre it is.

David: So how did you get into punk and hardcore?

Mike: Of course, Green Day and Rancid played a huge part. The thing that got me into the underground was the first Punk O Rama comp. That got me into NOFX and Down By Law. Then I started reading MRR. I would just randomly order 7"s and stuff that looked interesting from ads. It all kinda snowballed from there. I just went to a ton of shows and got involved.



David: How long will Psyched To Die last? Is this just a one off side project so that you can play a different type of music, or are you in this for the long haul?

Mike: It started as a side project. All of us were in more serious other bands when we first got together. By the time we started playing all of our other bands broke up. At that point we made the decision to take Psyched To Die more seriously. You can never tell how long a band will last but I'm pretty sure we're all in it for the long haul.

David: Would you classify Psyched To Die as your "main band"?

Mike: I suppose I would. It's definitely the one I'm most creatively involved in at this point.

David: Alright I'll end with some quick questions concerning the 80s hardcore sound the band is based on, Decline Of Western Civilization or American Hardcore?

Mike: Decline. No Contest.

David: Do you have a favorite kid from Decline? I know Eugene has quite a back story and is currently a folk musician.

Mike: I didn't know that. That's pretty awesome. I never really thought about it. My favorite thing about Decline is the musical performances. I'm just glad there's a visual document of the Chavo-era Black Flag.

David: Keith Morris or Henry Rollins?

Mike: Keith.

David: Did Rollins ever hear Pray For Rain? Did you have to pay him for using a sample from his audiobook?

Mike: I don't think he has. When the Ergs were on tour supporting dorkrock, we played a club that Henry was going to be playing a couple weeks after we were. I gave a CD to the club owner and asked her to give it to him. Moments later I realized "fuck, there's that unauthorized sample on there!!". I ran back to the club owner and told her to keep the cd for herself. Hopefully she did.

David: DOA, DRI, DYS, JFA, MDC, SOA, or SSD?

Mike: SOA, definitely.

David: The punk episode of CHIPS or the punk episode of Quincy?

Mike: Quincy All the way.



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THE STEINWAYS

Interview by Noah W.K.

Ladies and gentlemen, The Steinways! You know them, you love them, you hate them, and you hate to love them. With all of that aside this is their final show. Emotions may be running high or not at all. We all have our own Steinways memories; lets take a look at some of Grath's.

Noah W. K. - As a band that broke up a few months ago, why was it necessary for the last Steinway show to be in Baltimore at this year's Insubordination Fest?

Grath - Mostly to feed our enormous and insatiable egos. The Steinways played like 110 shows or something, and roughly 5 of them were to enthusiastic crowds, and 4 of those were in Baltimore at Insub or Insub-ish events. So I figured we might as well.

Noah W. K. - Looking back at the entire existence of the Steinways, what were some highlights? Continually, what were the low points?

I don't know. Making records was always pretty fun. The stuff I enjoyed most, though, was probably the hanging out and the meeting cool people. Both tours we did were really fun, mostly due to the fact that I got to eat awesome fast food all the time and watch either the Unlovables or Dear Landlord every night. We got to play with bands that were way, way more awesome than us at almost every show we ever did, so that part was always cool. Low points? I don't know. Breaking up without doing a last record was kind of dumb. Aside from that, most other low points revolve around too much alcohol.

Noah W. K. - Grath, tell us one embarrassing thing that the readers may not know about each of the rest of The Steinways.

I don't know how to ride a bike. Michelle only pretends to be stupid. In actuality she's REALLY stupid. Grivet is actually very nice. Azeem is actually a girl.

Noah W. K. - What does the future hold for you and the rest of The Steinways? What bands have been born? Which bands will be the best out of the batch and which bands will simply fizzle out like a stale fart?

Grivet is playing in a band called the Dispensed right now, and I think he and Ace are doing a band as well. Michelle is doing a band with some balding dude and some hippie looking fucker. Ace is talking about doing some "solo" stuff. I look forward to pretending to like all of those projects. Ace and me just made a record

with a band called House Boat, which is the two of us, Mikey Erg and Zack from Dear Landlord/OWTH. I'm pretty psyched on that one. Easily my favorite thing I've ever played on. I did some "solo" stuff myself with Chris Pierce playing drums under the name Barrakuda McMurder. To answer the rest of your question, all of these bands will fizzle out soon enough!!

Noah W. K. - What is the true reason the band is breaking up?

Because being in the Steinways is fucking boring!!!

Noah W. K. - Describe a typical Steinway practice, something that may never occur again.

Close your eyes and recall the most recent nightmare you had. It's sort of like that with a left-handed drummer and a girl who won't shut the fuck up.

Noah W. K. - Which songs are your favorite to play live and why? Which songs do you flat out refuse to play?

I don't think there's anything we'd flat out refuse to play, though I'm never happy when folks request "Everybody Loves Raymond" or "OnlyUndiesClub.com" or something like that. I'm not even really allowed to make the set lists in the Steinways, so I find myself not caring very much!

Noah W. K. - Now that The Steinways are history, what do you think people will be saying about the band in 5 or 10 years?

Probably not much! If there's still a pop punk message board, I'm sure someone will be on there saying they like us and someone else will be on there making fun of that person. I doubt our records will even be in print then, so, yeah, ideally we'll all be dead or forgotten!!

Noah W. K. - What do you think of people selling your albums on eBay and making a killing, solely because the band is now broken up?

Good for them!! If people are willing to pay idiotic prices for our records, that's their stupid thing!!! I know I've gathered some rent \$\$ on more than a couple of occasions by selling Steinways 7"s for far, far more than any sane human should be willing to pay. I guess it's flattering when people pretend your records are baseball cards? I don't know.

Noah W. K. - What do The Steinways mean to you?

I'm insanely thankful to have been in this band. We did everything I ever wanted to do and way more. If I never hear or play music again, that's cool cause I already did all the shit I wanted to. Thanks, The Steinways!!!

Noah W. K. - Any final statements or remarks as a Steinway?

Isn't that what I just did with the last question?!?!?! Woo!!!!

TEENAGE BOTTLEROCKET

Interview by Greg Murr

GM: So by the time this interview comes out a good number of things will have happened in the world of Teenage Bottlerocket fill the good readers in on what you guys are up to.

BC: The first thing I should mention is that we feel very blessed with all that has happened with the band. A lot of our hard work has been paying off. We don't take any of it for granted. That said, the most significant thing happening right now is that we are heading into the Blasting Room on May 11th to record our new full length. Fat Wreck Chords will be releasing it, and we hope to have it out in September. After that we'll be hitting the road again. I'm guessing US, and Europe again. But who knows? Toby has been talking to a label in Japan, and it looks they're going to be releasing Warning Device. It would be nice to play some shows over there too.

GM: So are you guys sticking around to watch the Insubfest? What bands are you most excited to see? Will you dance and sing like a fool when the Dead Milkmen play "Punk Rock Girl"?

BC: We're excited to see D4, Boris, Jetty Boys, wow... there's really too many to think of right now. Dance like a fool? Hmm, as fun as that sounds we usually hang out on the edge and sorta, well, watch. Ahh, what the hell am I saying?... see you in the pit.

GM: What does it feel like to have a huge spread in the local paper after your big home town show? I know how I used to feel like when my Grandma used to clip my soccer pictures out of the local paper for me.

BC: Ha, it was pretty funny. The headline said "local band makes it BIG!" We were like "huh?" At the same time it was nice to get support from our local community. Things like that are always nice.

GM: When will the new record be hitting the streets?

BC: September.

GM: Is there a working title for the new record?

BC: We were tossing around "They Came From the Shadows" But nothing is set in stone.

GM: Is the new record going to stick with the Ramonesy sound we've loved for years or will it be an experimental piece touching on show tunes, ragtime and blue grass?

BC: Looks like you're just going to have to wait and see.

GM: On a scale of 1-10, 10 being the raddest how rad is it to work with Toby from RedScare?

BC: 27

GM: When you guys aren't upping teh p0nx around the globe what do you do for fun in Wyoming?

BC: We like to head up to the mountains. My Dad has 4 wheelers, and Miguel and I like to cruise them up to Bear Lake. It's a ten mile ride on a 4x4 only road. Last time we were there, two huge moose swam across the lake right in front of us. It was amazing. Ray and I hit up the skate park occasionally. Bike rides are always nice. You know, the normal stuff really.

GM: You guys are big into local cuisine when on the road, what city's chow is the best? Philly Cheese steaks, Texas BBQ, Lobster when in the NE, or is it the sweet, sweet Maple Syrup and delectable Poutine from your romp through Canada?

BC: Easy, Texas BBQ. We love Rudy's it's by far our favorite place. Kody hates sea food.

GM: This one is for Kody; there has been a multiple page thread about this on the PPMB, let's just set the record straight. What is the best Kody band and why? TBR, Lillingtons, Sack?

KT: PPMB? Never heard of it.

GM: Ray, so you and Brandon are twins, neat. Did you draw the short straw so he got to wear the pop punk glasses?

RC: Well, if you must know, we flipped a coin. It makes it a lot easier though. We are notorious for saying the exact same thing to people just minutes apart. I can always tell by the look they give me. I say "someone who looks just like me said the exact same thing just earlier huh?" They look back confused and say "uh huh". I always laugh and say "we're twins". They usually think I'm fucking with them. The glasses make those situations a hell of a lot easier.

GM: A scared red birdie told me that Brandon went to go see Elton John when he came to Laramie in April. How was that?

BC: The show was amazing. There were 10,000 tickets sold, and they were able to raise nearly \$500,000 for the Mathew Shepherd foundation. My favorite part was before Elton played (amazingly I might add) he gave quite the nice speech. He said, "When Mathew was murdered, it was some of the most tragic news I had heard in some time. Almost equally as tragic was how the media pointed their finger at people from Wyoming, and accused them of being intolerant. But all of us here tonight know that's not true! And the people from Wyoming are amazing, and I feel more love from this city than many others." The whole crowd roared in agreeance, and it was truly spine tingling. It felt great to have Elton come in and help unify people against ignorance, and hatred.

GM: And for Miguel (or do you prefer Miggy), do the girls in WYO go "wild" like they do on other campuses around the country?

MC: Either name works. I'm not sure; I really haven't been to too many campuses. I really don't even make it to ours. I go to school online.

TEEN IDOLS

Interview by Greg Murr

Well the hype (on the pop punk bored anyways) began back in November when Idolteen as he was referred to then, posted this in the wanted section:

My old band Teen Idols is reforming and we need a female bassist with strong vocal abilities! Please reply to my myspace e-mail (www.myspace.com/idolteen) or personal e-mail (idolteen@hotmail.com) with sample of your playing and singing skills. If you're not familiar with the band, here's a sample of what we're about:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obPREtpGSUQ>

Thanks,
Phillip
Teen Idols

The reformed band welcomes import Jemima Kate on bass, Keith back on vocals, Bice from EIB on Drums and the Idolteen himself Phillip Hill on guitar. The Idols will be touring to the Insubfest with The Leftovers. Phillip has taken some time away from recording the new Riptides album to answer some questions.

GM: What was it that led you to get the old band back together?

PH: Keith had moved to Chicago a few years ago and found out I was also living there and tracked me down. We had a few phone conversations and eventually ended up hanging out at the House of Blues during a NOFX show. We both decided that we should definitely play together again.

GM: Tell us a little about your new bassist? From the pictures I've seen I know she bares a resemblance to Heather (well she's blonde anyways), but will she eat the noodles out of your barf with chopsticks?

PH: Ha, ha! That's hard to say! There aren't many girls like Heather on the planet, so I guess we'll have to wait and see!

GM: What do you see as being the biggest differences in pop-punk now vs. the Teen Idols hey day?

PH: There are a few differences. These days everyone has the means to promote their band via tools like Myspace and the internet in general, so it's WAY easier to get heard these days if you're a small band without a label. The flip side of that is there are way more bands to compete against, so even if your band is awesome it will be hard for people to filter through mountains of shit to discover that your band is even out there. The other major difference also involves the internet; file sharing. File Sharing is killing the music business! Bands that used to sell 50,000 albums are now barely selling 5,000 because practically everyone is stealing the music online from file sharing sites. The major problem with this is that bands don't make money from their records, which means that they can't

write, record, or tour as much because they have to work day jobs to pay their bills. Eventually no one will be able to make a living playing music if things continue the way they're going now.

GM: Word on the street is that you will have a new record out on a big time punk rock label. Has anything been firmed up with the big time label and has any work been started on the new record?

PH: I've been instructed not to talk about it just yet, but things are moving forward as planned. We're planning on having demos for a new record by this fall. Hopefully we'll be in the studio by Christmas and touring to support a new full-length by next spring!

GM: When not in the studio or on the road what do you like to do to pass the time? I know your little bastard <http://philbilly.mybrute.com> fills in a little of that time.

PH: Ha! Yeah, my little brute spends a lot of time in the arena! When I'm not working on Teen Idols, I spend most of my time working on other band's records at Sonic Iguana Studios, where I'm an engineer and record producer.

GM: I know you are in the studio with the Riptides right now, who is next? And are there any up and comers you are working with that we should all be looking out for?

PH: It seems like the studio is a hot spot for Canadian bands right now. Prior to the Riptides, we recorded a full-length album for the Unbelievers from Toronto, and later this summer we'll be recording the Old Wives, which is a band from Edmonton featuring PPMB member Liamharveyoswald on guitar.

GM: Since you joined the pop punk bored, you've been one of my favorite posters (ball lapping content). You have the stories that the older brother I never had couldn't tell me. Can you please leave our readers with a bedtime story?

PH: I'm glad I keep you entertained! I'd better not tell all of my stories right away. There would be nothing left to put in my book that I plan to write someday! Plus, I'm living new stories everyday! Just this evening I was at dinner with the Riptides and I did a trial run for a new food challenge that they threw at me; eating 5 foot-long chili cheese hot dogs in under 10 minutes. Tonight I ate 4 in just over 12 minutes... Wish me luck!

GM: Do Bob and Andy not realize what they are going to be putting themselves through by force feeding you chili before another long day in the studio?

PH: Ha, ha! They learned the hard way last night! But the worst thing was Doug Vermin eating a chili dog and topping it off with a chocolate malt. I guess he's lactose intolerant, which made for some horrible farts! Mass Giorgini had his hand over his mouth and nose and was saying, "My God! It smells so bad it's almost like I'm eating your shit!" Good times...

GM: Thanks for giving me and the readers your time Phillip; I can't wait to here your set at the Sonar in June.

the 20 belows

Interview by Livy Star

I decided it was about time I get together again with my favorite Danes in Copenhagen, and thought it would be the perfect opportunity to ask them a few questions for this here zine. Unfortunately Peter had better things to do that day so he was not present for this interview. It should also be noted that this interview took place in the early afternoon hours after a very fun night out that involved a lot of drinking and good ol' rockabilly music (we had just seen the Creepshow the night before, woo!) Some of us were hungover, and all of us were starving. Good times!

Livy - This is the second year in a row that you guys are playing the Insubordination Fest in Baltimore, what's going to make this year's performance different from last year's? Any new tricks up yer sleeves?

Bjarke - No new tricks, we just play our music. That's what we do.

Ulli - We have new songs we're going to play. We have faster songs now. Although, we had fast songs last year too, but we didn't play those at the Fest. Last year we only got to play for 20 minutes and this year we're going to play for 40 minutes!

Livy - What about this US tour that's taking place before the Fest, who are you touring with and where are you all going (maybe this should read "where did you go" since people will read this interview after the fact)?

Kasper - We're playing some shows with the Cockblocks. And the Sheekies. Where exactly? I don't know right now.

Bjarke - The whole driving route seems to be better this year for this tour, it looks shorter and easier to navigate than last year, that's cool.

Livy - Who are you most excited about to see at this year's Fest?

Ulli - Dillinger Four!

Kasper - Yeah, Dillinger Four and the Teen Idols!

Bjarke - Same for me. And other bands too, like the Hextalls!

Livy - So what has been going on in the lives of the 20 Belows here in Europe this past year, what should people know about what you have all been up to?

Kasper - We played a lot of shows. We did our own tour in Denmark and then we were the main support band for Volbeat on their tour, which was pretty huge.

Bjarke - Yeah, we didn't really tour Europe though, just Denmark.

Ulli - We spent a year working on our new album. We put a lot into it. And it's not out yet!

Livy - Let's talk about your other musical projects that you guys are also involved with, what's happening there?

Kasper - For my other band, the Hitchcocks, it's the same story with the new album. It's in the works. We toured Germany and played a couple shows in Belgium, and hopefully we'll get to do a West Coast tour next spring!

Ulli - The Human Duplicators toured A LOT. Haha. No. It's a new band now. With a new name. And there'll be a new myspace page for it soon. I'm in the band! It's pop punk! Three chords! Old skool! Yeah!

Bjarke - Peter is also in the band the Headlines (from Sweden), but he's not here to talk about that now, so let's move on. Haha.

Livy - Imagine you could tour any part of the world with any band (broken up or still active), where would you most want to go and with what band(s)??

Ulli - I'd wanna tour Japan with Motley Crue in the 80s.

Bjarke - Yeah, Japan. Or Australia.

Kasper - Japan. I'd also like to tour the West Coast. It's stupid to say the Ramones, right?

Ulli - I'd want to tour with Green Day because the crowds would be big and the food would be good. And we'd probably get free drinks.

Bjarke - It's all about the free drinks!

Ulli - I'd love to tour Germany with the Hitchcocks! Haha. Maybe with Teenage Bottlerocket. I think I could stand to watch them play 30 nights in a row.

Kasper - Yeah! They're good guys too. Hey, maybe do a tour with Swingin' Utters?

Ulli - Oooh, yeah!

Kasper - Lawrence Arms.

Livy - I'm hungry.

Kasper - Me too! You should include that. I feel like shit and I'm hungry.

Livy - If you were wrestlers, what would your names be, your costumes look like, and what would your legendary moves be?

Bjarke - Is this just for Ulrich? Because I don't know anything about wrestling.

Ulli - I thought this question was going to be about my favorite wrestler. I don't know... I'm sorry, did you spend a lot of time on this question?

Livy - No, it randomly popped into my head and thought it would be fun to ask.

Ulli - Hahaha. Mick!

Kasper - If I were a wrestler I'd want to be Scott Steiner. Yeah!

Livy - Any last thoughts you'd like to share with the avid readers of this snazzy zine?

Bjarke - I'm looking forward to going back to the States.

Kasper - Yeah, hopefully our record will be out soon too! We should play more shows in general. Quit our jobs and just pay more! Yeah, then we'll really be broke.


Ulli had nothing to add.

Peter did want me to quote him with this - "Everybody else sucks. THE 20BELOWS for PREZI!" when he told me he couldn't be there for our little interview. And on that note, I bid you adieu.



Underground Railroad To Candyland

interview by Garrett Price



TOYS THAT KILL

1. Members and their roles in Toys That Kill:

TODD CONGELLIERE-Guitar Vocals / SEAN COLE-Guitar Vocals / SALVATORE "Chachi" FERRARA-Bass / Jimmy FELIX-Drums

2. This is the first time TTK have played Insubordination Fest, How did you become part of this years roster?

They asked us and bought us plane tickets, so we say "Yea man"

3. What are your favorite aspects of playing Fests?

The gathering of people who love good music.

4. What do you like most about the East Coast, since this is the only show you're scheduled for out here?

You can call people on the west coast real late. Oh wait, i hate the phone.

5. You've been together for 10 years, in that time what challenges have you faces as a band, and what has benefitted you the most?

I cant think of many challenges since were not trying to "make it". It's been mostly beneficial.

6. TTK has received positive reviews on all of your releases, do you also get the same support from bands and promoters when you're on tour?

Yea we think were a band that only other bands like. Kids that aren't in bands hate us!

7. What Kind of things(tours/releases) can fans of TTK expect to find over the next year?

Not much. We will fly for the weekend maybe though.

8. What do you want the people to know?

That its ok to not sing about girls. How bout some dudes here?!

1. Members and roles in Underground Railroad to Candy Land:

TODD CONGELLIERE-Guitar voice / SALVATORE "Chachi" FERRARA- Fun station / JIMMY FELIX-Drums / JOEL MORALES-Bass / JACK SPRALIA-Action Chorus

2. One of your tracks was featured on the game Skate 2, how did you manage getting such a sweet deal, and what benefit has this brought you so far?
Someone asked us to be on it and we said yes. We got a flat \$1800 to pay off some of our debts. Beyond that we havent seen any obvious benefits yet.

3. Where does all of the enthusiasm and fun of your onstage performances come from?

I dunno. Not planned. I guess all the people in the band hang out alot and act very much the same way in real life. oh yea, being on stage is not real life.

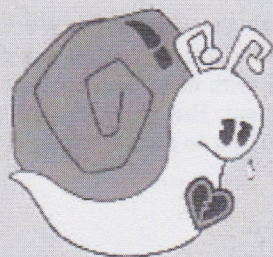
4. What all goes into keeping this band going, with all of your members where does time practice, writing, and touring come into play?
We dont tour as much as we'd like to. I think if we still love doing it and have fun then its easy to keep it together. Once that stops we will stop.
As far as practice goes, we barely do it! We probably have 1 full band practice every two months. Sometimes mc,jimmy, and chachi, or Joel will get together. The good thing about this band is that not everyone has to be there to make shit happen. Everyone's cool with that.

5. Can we expect a Tour sometime later this year in support of Manson Lamps?

I sure hope so. Most likely in Oct/Nov

6. What other side projects are members currently involved in?

Me,Joel,jimmy,and sometimes Chachi are in Bible Children. Me,Jimmy,& Chachi are in Stoned At Heart and Toys That Kill. Joel is in Dios,whom are now called We Are Dios. Jack is,or was-i dunno, in the hip hop act Full Blast.



interview by Chelsea Chapman

the unlovables

1. Since shortly after the release of Heartsickie you guys haven't really released anything. What the hell? What's been going on since then?

Hallie: Busy working on other projects! It's been great. I've been acting full time, and Frank and Mikey are in like a million other bands. And Frank's also been diving into the film world, producing documentaries and stuff. The band has really benefited from our taking some time off... we're all feeling inspired by the other things we've been doing. When we have time to come together and work on Unlovables stuff, everyone feels refreshed. I think all our other creative endeavors just end up feeding into the band eventually. We're hoping to get a 7" recorded soon, which Grath Madden will play guitar on, too (it's been SO COOL to have him playing with us on-and-off for all this time). We can't wait to get back into the studio!

Unlovable Frank: We're all really busy living like rap stars here in NYC, drinkin' Cristal and driving our Bentleys around. But other than that we've been playing shows whenever we can working around our various hectic work and other band schedules. We've got some new songs on the horizon, at least a new 7" in the works that we're excited about so stay tuned!

2. My "amazing" boyfriend and I recently saw mc chris, I know you guys play with him often. Is there any chance of collaboration or a split being put out?

UF: Putting amazing in those quotation marks has gotta make him feel good, anyway Hallie's sung on a bunch of MC's records and such and we play shows with him whenever he asks and they're always great so there's that form of collaboration but no plans for any splits as of now not that I wouldn't love to. He's an old friend of ours and always have a great time playing with him though.

H: MC rules. I've sang on almost all of his albums, so I'd say we've already been collaborating! And he's used Unlovables songs in some of the Cartoon Network commercials he's put together, which was really exciting. It's been so so fun to do stuff with Chris... he always gives me a lot of freedom when I sing on his tunes, and I always get super inspired when I go in the studio with him. I'll have like a million ideas for vocal parts that I could add, and he'll let me know what he likes. As for an Unlovables/MC split... no one's ever suggested it before! Not a bad idea, I'll have to mull that one over :)

3. Over the last year, we've seen the break up of several amazing pop-punk bands, which band do you wish you could've worked with more?

UF: I guess the Ergs, they went out at their peak leaving us wanting more not less as some bands that drag things out until things get shitty. That's always refreshing (yet annoying!). I'd love to get to see and play with those guys even more.

H: We're bummed that we never got to do a split with the Steinways. We were talking a lot about it, and both bands seemed pretty psyched about it. That was right before they broke up. We've just played so many shows with them, and toured with them, and it woulda been cool to do a release with them. But we're excited that those guys have other projects going on, and maybe we'll get to do something in the future with one of their new bands.

4. What bands have been influencing you lately?

H: Oh god, my influences are all over the place these days. Maybe that's why I haven't been writing as much as usual... I've just been listening to a lot of different kinds of music, and it's all brewing up in my head, and I think in a couple months I'll have a better idea of what kind of stuff I'd like to be creating. Listening to pop, as usual, but different kinds of pop like Tegan and Sara, Sigur Ros, Wavves, Blitzen Trapper, The Thermals, Titus Andronicus, Monikers, Golden Dogs, Bishop Allen, Santogold... A mish-mash of stuff. I'm like hanging out in a cocoon of musical influences, and soon I'll emerge as a beautiful hybrid pop /indie /punk butterfly.

UF: Lately I listen to mostly a lot of Jay Reatard, Art Brut, Neko Case, So Cow, the Mae Shi, and my regulars: Bananas, Toys that Kill, Weakerthans, also lots and lots of assorted hip hop stuff.

5. The line up for this year's fest is pretty amazing (I personally know that billymtx screamed like a girl when he found out The Dead Milkmen were playing), who are you the most excited to see?

H: Too many to list. The lineup is A.W.E.S.O.M.E.

UF: I saw the Dead Milkmen in Brooklyn recently and they were amazing. I enjoyed it more than the first time I'd seen them years ago. I guess this year I'm the most psyched about Boris the Sprinkler though, every show he's put on in NYC has been a truly amazing spectacle. Also the bands I love but wasn't expecting to see at an Insub fest (Toys That Kill, Underground Railroad to Candyland, D4)

6. Whoa Oh records has been pretty good to The Unlovables over the last couple of years, any chance of returning the favor to Mr. Whoa Oh?

UF: What are you implying here? That I'm not nice enough to my friend Jonnie or I should release his next solo record? We've "enjoyed" many a Drambuie openbar together, isn't that enough?

H: Hmmm.... Bands spend YEARS of time, energy, and creativity into writing and recording their albums. I don't think anyone would say that bands owe their labels any "favors" for putting those albums out. I know Jonnie doesn't see it that way. The Unlovables + Whoa Oh Records = best friends forever!

7. We know that Hallie is an actress, what other fascinating day jobs do the other band members have?

UF: Currently there's a personal trainer, professional pop punk legend, and an office file clerk in our midst.

Former Unlovables members have gone on to success as professional poker players, real life "Mad Men" straight out of AMC TV, pizza delivery boys, and fish mongers. (ok only 3/4 of those are true)



8. Read Hard, real or just Rally fucking with everybody on the bored?

UF: I lie awake at night tossing and turning on this subject but the photographic evidence is pretty convincing and everyone knows it's impossible to tamper with photos on the interweb.

9. With the band's growing popularity how "unlovable" can you really claim to be? Any thought of changing the band's name to something more realistic?

H: I think everyone feels unlovable somedays, no matter how they appear to other people. That's just part of being human, so I think the band name is always gonna be pretty applicable no matter what.

UF: Wow, we're growing, that's fantastic! I think we're stuck with the one we've got but other people have mentioned this before. Other nicknames suggested include the Unmovables (referencing our lack of ability to leave any gas station or rest stop until examining every snack and souvenir option) and the Unstabbables (referencing our perfect record of none of us having ever being stabbed. I for one really hope we can hold on to this record as long as possible).

take a listen!

HEY IT'S
THE PG-13s
 THE DEBUT 7"
"GET BACK"

THE PG-13s OTTAWA POP MUSIC THEPG13S.COM MERMANRECORDS.COM

BET IT NOW ON
 **merman**
 RECORDS

 119

EXTREME

JUSTICE!

by Johnny B



Luke Copyright and Cameron Collins, Punk Rock Attorneys

Luke Copyright- Drummer, The Copyrights

What sort of law do you practice?

I practice appellate criminal law. I represent the State of Illinois, or "the man." I took the job because it was the only one I was offered besides State's Attorney positions and beggars can't be choosers. We don't try to keep people in jail who were put there in violation of their rights. There are no quotas. If a defendant's rights were actually violated or there was an error at trial we concede, no questions asked. I like to research and write, and I like constitutional law, which is what a lot of the issues are, and they let me off to tour when I can afford to not work. It's an ok job.

It seems like quite a few members/former members of punk bands are drawn to the legal profession (eg. Joe Escalante, Lyle Preslar). Do you think this is more a result of law being a common profession, or is there a correlation between being a musician and being attracted to law?

I think, like me, law is an attractive profession for people in punk bands to pursue because of ethical reasons, i.e. you want to be an ACLU lawyer and help out the little guy. I also think, like me, that most people who graduate law school quickly find out that those positions are super tough to come by, and are choked with debt, and have to then take any job that comes their way, like any profession. There are a lot of fucking lawyers dude. If I had it to do over again I would flip a coin to decide if I would go to law school. To all those thinking about going, I suggest you use the same method to decide the rest of your life.

You play in a very popular band. Have you found it difficult to strike a balance between the demands of a legal career and touring and recording demands?

Well, we aren't popular enough to tour and also pay a mortgage or anything like that, and less and less music is being bought, so I don't see being in a band as a "demand" or anything like that. Touring is a vacation to me. A shitty vacation, but a vacation nonetheless. Adam and Brett have low overhead costs in their life and can afford to tour more, which I envy, but I also just bought a house, and am kind of happy about that. I still plan on touring about a month a year, but any more than that, The Copyrights have another drummer do it. Ronnie from the arrivals has

done it in the past, and Neil from Lawrence Arms is doing the tour this summer. Johnny Misfit from the Rushmores and Devin from the Vents have also done tours. All of them are better drummers than me. I'm glad I write the songs or I'd be shown the door with the quickness.

As far as recording, it's usually only a week or so, and I always make time for that, since it's my favorite thing about being in a band.

The Copyrights are playing at Sonar. An errant cord is stretched across a walkway between the stage and the wall. Toby Redscare emerges from backstage carrying a birthday cake for Mao Tse Tung, and trips over the cord sending the cake flying across the room, where it strikes Jonny Rally in the face. Disoriented and in a blind rage, Rally begins flailing, swinging his Coors Light bottle wildly, and it strikes Larry Livermore, who careens into a merch table, sending Traffic Street 7 inches to the floor.
Please identify all potential causes of action.

fuck I hate Torts. Obviously all actions maybe were proximately caused by the negligence of Sonar's agent under respondeat superior. But I'd try to sue Livermore instead because I heard if he stands on his money he's 20 feet tall.

How annoying is it when people make Copyrights/copyright jokes?

I successfully made it through my 3 years of law school without anyone knowing the name of my band. This fact was especially protected from my intellectual property professor.

What's coming up in the future for The Copyrights?

I guess that Dopamines split, and a split 7" with the Brokedowns in the near future are all we have coming out soon. I have most of the songs written for the new full-length Copys record, and I'm pretty sure most people will hate it. It'll probably be out in 2010.

The Copyrights will be performing at Insubordination Fest.

Cameron J. Collins, Esq.

What sort of law do you practice?

My emphasis as an attorney is in Entertainment law, although I do some work outside of that field, especially for independent businesses. Back in 2007, I co-founded Saku Collins Entertainment & Media Law Group, PLLC (www.sakucollins.com) a D.I.Y. law firm providing low cost legal services to musicians, artists, athletes, models, television producers, photographers, and pretty much anyone involved in the "entertainment field." We also provide counsel for small and independent businesses, from record labels and MMA fight leagues to coffee shops.

You're an attorney with a successful partnership and a photographer. Have you also been involved in performing music?

I have at times been involved with playing music, but not at the moment. The bands were nothing of note, playing very few shows, as during the initial incarnation (The If/Then Statement) a romantic breakup caused members to leave the band. At that point, I ended up moving from bass to keyboards, something I am much more comfortable at playing. The new incarnation (MT148) went south due to creative differences between the singer and myself (same old story). Breaking up that band was like breaking up a relationship...I literally gave the whole "it isn't you, it's me" speech. Recently, I have been asked to write some keyboard lines for a new Seattle-area band called Premise Beach, so if that works out, I may be playing organ with them!

How has your involvement in the Seattle punk scene shaped your practice?

That is actually a very interesting question...I think the most important way that it has shaped my practice is that the vitality of the scene has kept me going when at times it probably would have been the most logical decision to throw in the towel and go make enough money to pay off my law school debts. The people here are so amazing and it has helped me stay positive. Much like any small business, there are rough times in this economy, and having people around who believe in what we are doing helps me keep my D.I.Y. ethic strong. Interestingly enough, the Bay Area music scene has had an equally, if not more important, role in shaping my practice, as it has garnered me many clients and references from my days on KSCU radio. That is also when I first got involved in a music scene, and to this day some of my best friends in music are still there...After all, it was Mike Park (of Asian Man Records/Skankin Pickle fame) who first called me the punk rock lawyer.

It seems that most of the punk bands in our scene, those who aren't exactly major label bands, operate on a handshake agreement system of sorts with the labels that put out their material (which I'm not saying is a good or bad system, just that it seems to be a common one). That said, does your firm do legal work with smaller punk bands, and if so, what has been your experience representing artists in our scene? Do artists in the Seattle scene often consult with you when they are making decisions relating to their art?

This notion of everything done on a handshake is a real problem (for the artist and/or independent labels). It seems self-serving to say it, but too often people get scared away by contracts when they exist to protect the artist. I have been approached by many small labels and artists to ask for help drafting something that would be beneficial to all parties and put into writing exactly what such a handshake represents. People tend to be afraid of contracts, but luckily people who know me know that I am here to help the artist and the little guy, so they know I can help them. Sadly, they oftentimes want the contracts dumbed down, which provides less protection, but they're the boss...all I can do is tell them the ramifications. I have worked with punk bands from all over the West Coast, and generally the reaction has been a very positive one on their part. I have been lucky enough to work with some of my favorite bands and labels in various capacities. Sometimes, it is simply providing counsel on the legal ramifications of whatever it is they are trying to achieve. Luckily, no issues have arisen in terms of art for the artist, but I would hope that the artist would come to me BEFORE such an issue might arise so it won't be as messy later!

Can you please explain to me what consideration is? It's a made up concept, isn't it?

Sometimes consideration can be as little as a dollar, but it is the building block of any contract...it is the reason for which the contract is made in the first place! Without consideration, no contract can exist. They weren't very considerate when coming up with the name of it, however.

Have you found it difficult to balance your practice in a very time-intensive profession with your involvement in the Seattle music scene?

Actually, I feel as if my law practice coincides quite well with all of my extra-curricular activities in the Seattle music scene. Oftentimes I meet new clients through the scene, and since, in the end, I feel as if I am here to help the artist, I love being involved. This involvement takes many forms. For example, PPMB's own Chris Crusher worked with me and some other locals to form our own version of the PPMB, NWPUNKBOARD.COM, to help build our community in the entire Pacific Northwest. Not only has it started to create camaraderie between those of us in the Northwest (and a few PPMB individuals who get bored and head our way), but it has created a network that artists from Oregon to Montana can use to help book shows and promote themselves. It has even led to bands from other places around the country coming on and looking for help booking shows. It is only in its infancy, but in the few months that the NWPB has existed, it has been a great experience.

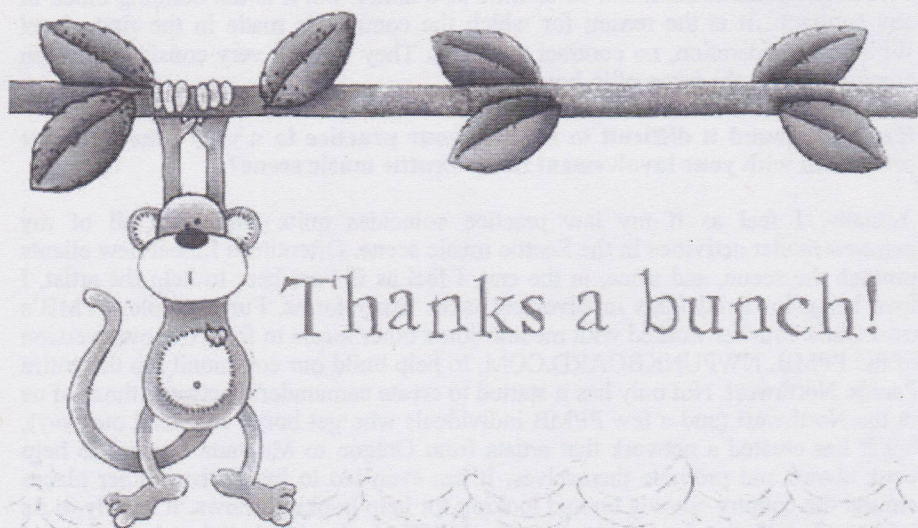
It has also been a natural progression to continue writing (as I used to write the music column for the Santa Clara University newspaper and was one of the editors of the Seattle University School of Law newspaper). I have been writing an Entertainment Law column for a Bay Area based zine called Lubricated and recently I became the Music Editor for a Seattle based Magazine called Vain (www.callmevain.com). I also write for one of the most popular Seattle music blogs, Seattle Subsonic (www.seattlesubsonic.com). As another outlet, I put on the occasional house show in Seattle (most recently with Classics of Love). All of this involvement in the scene is something I have loved since my time in the Bay Area when I was putting on shows with the Aquabats, Tsunami Bomb, and Nerf Herder, so I am glad that I have been able to continue my involvement in a way that fits in naturally with my law practice.

Will you hire me next year? Please?

If we have the money, I am sure we would be more than happy to. Sometimes, however, running a D.I.Y. law practice requires a low overhead...but someone like you is exactly the kind of person we would like to hire when that time comes!

BIO:

Cameron J. Collins, more popularly known as "Grendel," is an award winning disc jockey and an attorney. He is a founding partner at Saku Collins Entertainment and Media Law Group and hosts weekly punk rock radio shows on KSUB, Seattle 89.1 FM and KGRG, Auburn 89.9 FM. Collins became a popular entity on KSCU, Santa Clara in the late 1990s due to his constant presence on air, regularly appearing as a guest on other shows, and his mix of politics and punk rock. In 2001, he was voted Best DJ by Readers of the Metro Silicon Valley. Subsequently, in 2002, he was voted Best Celebrity in Silicon Valley. Currently, he is a member of the Washington State Bar Association, Washington Lawyers for the Arts, the Solo/Small Firms and Intellectual Property sections of the King County Bar Association, and the Intellectual Property division of the American Bar Association. He continues to be an active member of the Seattle music scene as a musician, disc jockey, concert promoter, blogger, photographer, and roadie in the punk, indie, and hip hop scenes.



This zine could not have come together if not for the help of a ton of people. I wholeheartedly appreciate everyone who took the time to contribute to this zine, where it was through an interview, column, comic, purchasing an ad or just giving sage like advice. Many thanks to you all! Hope you enjoyed the zine!

~ Danny White

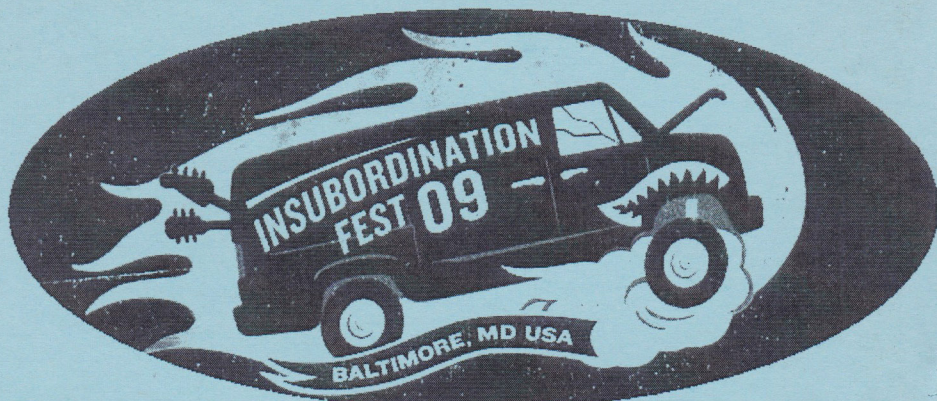
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Plus everyone I'm
forgetting here.

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Johnny Misfit



Thursday, JUNE 25, 2009 OTTOBAR

2549 N HOWARD ST BALTIMORE, MD 21218

5:00 - 6:00	Doors
6:00 - 6:20	FIRECRACKERS
6:35 - 6:55	RATIONAL ANTHEM
7:10 - 7:30	CBGAV
7:45 - 8:05	DEEP SLEEP
8:20 - 8:40	SICK SICK BIRDS
8:55 - 9:15	LOBLAWS
9:30 - 9:50	CHALLENGED
10:05 - 10:25	MAX LEVINE ENSEMBLE
10:25 - 10:45	DELAY
11:00 - 11:20	JOHN WALSH
11:35 - 11:55	FESTIPALS
12:10 - 12:30	SHORT ATTENTION
12:45 - ??:??	TEENAGE BOTTLEROCKET

Friday, June 26, 2009 Sonar

407 W. Saratoga St. Baltimore, MD 21202

5:00 - 5:20	AV CLUB
5:35 - 5:55	HOUSE BOAT
6:10 - 6:30	KARMELLA'S GAME
6:45 - 7:05	UNLOVABLES
7:20 - 7:50	LE VOLUME
8:05 - 8:35	UNDERGROUND RAILROAD
8:50 - 9:20	COPYRIGHTS
9:35 - 10:05	PANSY DIVISION
10:20 - 10:28	SUCIDIE
10:30 - 11:00	STEINWAYS
11:15 - 12:00	BORIS THE SPRINKLER
12:15 - ??:??	DEAD MILKMEN

MAIN STAGE

4:45 - 5:05	SHUTTLECOCKS
5:20 - 5:40	JETTY BOYS
5:55 - 6:15	BANNER PILOT
6:30 - 6:50	GUTS
7:05 - 7:35	SECRECTIONS
7:50 - 8:20	DOPAMINES
8:35 - 9:05	BACKSEAT VIRGINS
9:20 - 9:50	ABDUCTED
10:05 - 10:45	20 BELOWS
11:00 - 11:30	BE MY DOPPELGANGER

SECOND STAGE

7:40 - 8:10	THE SERLINGTONS
8:30 - 9:00	SHECKIES
9:10 - 9:40	PROZACS
9:50 - 10:20	FIENDZ
10:40 - 11:10	MENZINGERS

THIRD STAGE

Saturday, June 27th, 2009 Sonar

407 W. Saratoga St. Baltimore, MD 21202

1:00 - 2:00	DOORS
2:00 - 2:20	KUNG FU MONKEYS
2:35 - 2:55	HEXTALLS
3:10 - 3:30	GATEWAY DISTRICT
3:45 - 4:05	LEMURIA
4:20 - 4:40	DEAR LANDLORD
4:55 - 5:25	APERS
5:40 - 6:05	CRETINS
6:20 - 6:45	SPODIE
7:00 - 7:35	EGGHEAD
7:50 - 8:20	BEATNIK TERMITES
8:35 - 9:05	METHADONES
9:20 - 9:50	TOYS THAT KILL
10:05 - 10:35	KEPI GHOULIE
10:50 - 11:25	SQUIRTGUN
11:40 - 12:25	TEEN IDOLS
12:40 - ??:??	DILLINGER FOUR

MAIN STAGE

1:45 - 2:05	PROZACS
2:20 - 2:40	PROTEENS
2:55 - 3:15	NANCY
3:30 - 3:50	MARSHMALLOWS
4:05 - 4:25	FULL OF FANCY
4:40 - 5:10	WIMPY RUTHERFORD
5:25 - 5:50	REPELLENTS
6:05 - 6:30	ADORKABLES
6:45 - 7:15	ARRIVALS
7:30 - 8:05	PARASITES
8:20 - 8:50	DEAD MECHANICAL
9:05 - 9:35	LEFTOVERS
9:50 - 10:25	PSYCHED TO DIE
10:40 - 11:10	SIDEKICKS

SECOND STAGE

1:30 - 1:50	ANIMAL POISON
2:10 - 2:30	IN THE HOLLOWES
2:50 - 3:10	ACTIVE SAC
3:30 - 4:00	CLINT MAUL
4:20 - 4:50	HEAD HOME
5:10 - 5:40	SLEEPWALL
6:00 - 6:30	THE SWIMS
6:50 - 7:20	TENEMENT
7:40 - 8:10	RINGERS
8:30 - 9:00	CLOAK / DAGGER
9:10 - 9:40	PLEASURE KILLS
9:50 - 10:20	ONE SHORT FALL

THIRD STAGE



